

Englewood

BY
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ENGLEWOOD.

ITS ANNALS AND REMINISCENCES.

*We have a strong City; Salvation will God appoint
for walls and bulwarks.*



FIRST DWELLING BUILT IN ENGLEWOOD.

ENGLEWOOD.^c *N. J.*

ITS ANNALS AND REMINISCENCES.

BY
J. A. HUMPHREY.

ILLUSTRATED.

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J. A. HUMPHREY.

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PREFACE.

THE object of this volume is to place on record events in the history of Englewood for the last forty years, also to keep in memory those who were its pioneers and founders.

The writer entered upon this duty with reluctance, as he would have much preferred to have left it to other hands more capable than his.

Realizing that the annals of this city should be written by one familiar with its affairs from the beginning, and not knowing how long that one may be permitted to remain, is the writer's apology for attempting the task.

It is written mostly from memory, as very few of the incidents are on record.

It is not intended to narrate the history of men and affairs of to-day, except as they form links in the chain of beings that extends back into years that have past.

The author has not intended to give a detailed history of societies and institutions, but to notice them in a general way.

He asks the reader to be kind in his criticisms, and tread gently over the imperfections of this little work.

J. A. H.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
I. A Retrospective View.....	11
II. A Flight of Fancy.....	16
III. The Habits and Customs of the People..	18
IV. Emigration to the Suburbs.....	20
V. The Birth of Englewood....	21
VI. The Northern Railroad.....	25
VII. The First to Arrive.....	28
VIII. Englewood's Early Residents.....	30
IX. An Excursion.....	32
X. A Scarcity of Supplies	39
XI. Moving to the Country.....	41
XII. Welcomed by the Original Inhabitants .	43
XIII. The Church Remembered.....	45
XIV. Contributions to the First Church.....	49
XV. Building in the Palisades Forest.....	51
XVI. A Large Undertaking.....	53
XVII. Building a New Town....	58
XVIII. Malaria and Mosquitoes.....	62
XIX. When our Wells Ran Dry.....	64
XX. Effect of the Civil War.....	66
XXI. Our First Tonsorial Professor	69
XXII. A Railroad Experience.....	70
XXIII. The Liberty Pole Tavern.....	72
XXIV. Our First Postmaster.....	76
XXV. Our First Physician.....	80

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
XXVI. Prosperous Times.....	83
XXVII. Our Schools.....	96
XXVIII. The Hospital.....	101
XXIX. The Field Club.....	105
XXX. Englewood Golf Club.....	110
XXXI. Music and Song.....	113
XXXII. Planting Trees.....	115
XXXIII. Fruit Trees.....	117
XXXIV. An Old Orchard.....	119
XXXV. Drainage.....	121
XXXVI. Anticipating Wants.....	122
XXXVII. The Canal Company.....	125
XXXVIII. Roads.....	127
XXXIX. Village Improvement Society.....	128
XL. The Protection Society.....	130
XLI. An Exciting Incident.....	137
XLII. The Old Ravine.....	139
XLIII. The Little Park near the Depot.....	141
XLIV. The Old Saw Mill.....	143
XLV. An Old Ice Pond.....	145
XLVI. The Press.....	148
XLVII. Englewood Sewer Co.....	151
XLVIII. A Swiss Mountain Road.....	152
XLIX. New York and New Jersey Bridge Com- pany.....	155
L. Celebrating the Election of President Grant in 1868.....	157
LI. A Surrender to Our Flag.....	160
LII. A Revival of Business.....	162
LIII. A New Presbyterian Church.....	165
LIV. A Methodist Church.....	169
LV. The Catholic Church.....	171
LVI. The Episcopal Church.....	173
LVII. A Picnic on the Palisades.....	175

CONTENTS.

ix

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
LVIII. Speculating Beyond the Limits of the Town.....	178
LIX. The Panic of 1873.....	180
LX. The Tables Turned.....	181
LXI. The Palisades Land Company.....	183
LXII. Speculation in Oil.....	185
LXIII. Purchasing a Gas Machine.....	187
LXIV. The Bergen County Gas Company.....	189
LXV. Water Introduced.....	191
LXVI. Brookside Cemetery.....	192
LXVII. An Auction Sale.....	195
LXVIII. A Contest with a Burglar.....	199
LXIX. Our Oldest Master Builders.....	204
LXX. An ex-Tammany Sheriff.....	205
LXXI. A Chapter on Taxes.....	206
LXXII. Good Templars.....	208
LXXIII. Catholic Societies.....	209
LXXIV. Tuscan Lodge F. and A. M., No. 115....	210
LXXV. Odd Fellows.....	212
LXXVI. The Royal Arcanum....	213
LXXVII. Dwight Post....	215
LXXVIII. Loan and Building Association.....	217
LXXIX. The Daughters of the Revolution.....	218
LXXX. The Woman's Exchange.....	221
LXXXI. The Lyceum.....	223
LXXXII. Daisy Fields.....	225
LXXXIII. A New Church.....	229
LXXXIV. Our Fire Department.....	233
LXXXV. A City of Dwellings.....	335
LXXXVI. The Character of Our City.....	237

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ENGLEWOOD.

I.

A RETROSPECTIVE VIEW.

As time rolls on we love to look back into the bygone regions of the past—a region we all must enter some day—as we belong to a vast chain of beings with every link united, either in written or unwritten history. How pleasant then to let our thoughts return to scenes and friends of long ago.

My object in writing a brief history of our village is to preserve the memory of its founders, before the last one departs and is forgotten; and to give in detail some of the events it has passed through from the time the first steam whistle

awoke the echoes of the Palisades to the period when the Township Committee handed its affairs over to the new city government. In other words to compare the past with the present. It may interest those who are to-day enjoying the lights and shadows of Englewood, its well-paved streets, its shady walks, and handsome lawns, with forests of trees that protect you from summer heat, with waters that flow through every dwelling as they pass to the ocean.

Ours was a dear little village for many years, with all its old-time hospitality extended to each other in everyday life, a place where we knew every one as we knew the shrubs and flowers in our gardens. We became strongly united, more by mutual interests and obligations than kindred ties. It was a union of earnest workers associated by a community of rights and interests. They loved nature in all its varied forms of life; they loved

it as a picture and not as a scientific study.

Their object in inviting others to join them in making this their home was that they might have friends and neighbors to share in the benefits that were sure to accrue. Speculation never entered the minds of the first settlers when they came here, but it forced itself upon them naturally and from necessity. If we trace their history one by one, we shall find that their labors were a contribution to the community, with very little gain to themselves.

They found poor soil, rough and uncultivated fields, no fences, streets, lawns or shade; and all the comforts of modern civilization were wanting.

The gallinaceous quail and partridge sang their motherly songs and raised their young in the fields and forests unmolested, until the sharp crack of the village sportsman's rifle silenced them.

The coming of the early inhabitants of Englewood was more than an incident in their lives—it was an event that has become history. Their lives were a succession of events, the issue of which is seen on every hand. It was a pleasure for them to lay off the commercial harness and spend a portion of their years in transferring broad acres into lawns and gardens.

“Where they could unconcern’dly find
Hours, days, and years slide softly away,
In health of body, peace of mind
Quiet by day.

“Sound sleep by night; study and ease,
Together mixed; sweet recreation;
And innocence, which most does please,
With meditation.”

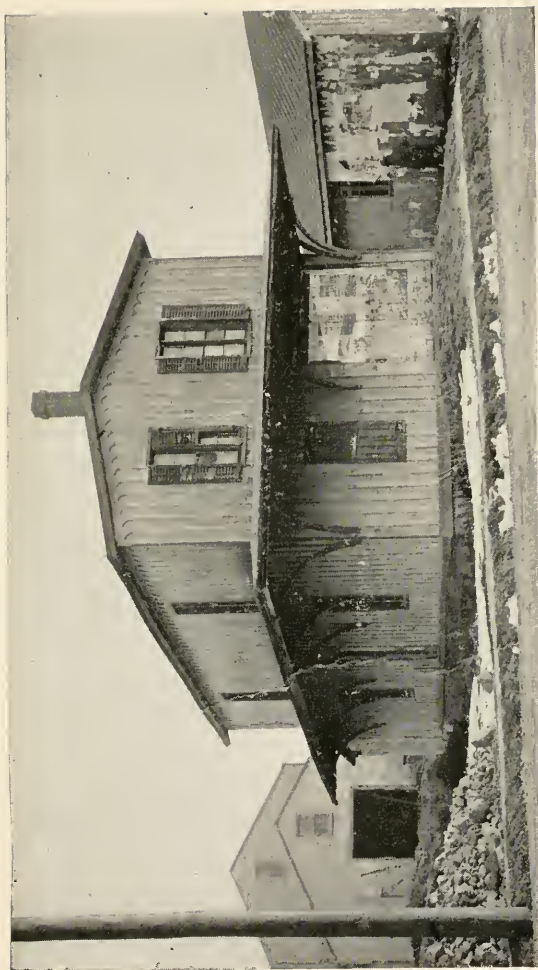
Bound together in a common lot, these early settlers spent much time in friendly consultation for the common good.

They worked by faith; as to land among strangers, surrounded by barren fields, with very few inhabitants, buy real estate, map it out, and plant a depot are evidences that an unseen hand guides the undeveloped germs in our minds.

II.

A FLIGHT OF FANCY.

WHILE spending the summer of 1859 at the Getty House, in the village of Yonkers, I often looked dreamily across the Hudson River toward the west, and wondered what there was beyond those mighty Palisades—rocky heights that rose five hundred feet perpendicularly above the river, and crowned by a dense forest that seemed strangely wild and out of place so near the great city. I was told that beyond the western slope of these mountains a broad and fertile valley extended from New York City to Piermont, a distance of twenty-five miles. And that its inhabitants had no means of communicating with the city except by stage or private conveyance.



ENGLEWOOD DEPOT, 1859.

The valley was watered by a stream that ages ago was a mighty river. I was also informed that a railroad had just been completed, where not only the inhabitants of the valley could have rapid communication with the city, but where the people of the great and growing metropolis could find rest and fresh air as well as ramble through the sweet-scented fields and forests of New Jersey.

Conducting business in the City of New York and retiring to the country at the close of the day was hardly thought of at that time. Yonkers was but a small village, and the Oranges, with one exception, had not appeared in history. A township then would make a good-sized county to-day. Hackensack Township extended to the Hudson River, and Englewood Township did not exist until 1871. A tax on a house and lot in 1861 would hardly pay a dog tax to-day.

III.

THE HABITS AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE.

PREVIOUS to 1858 the residents of this valley seldom visited the City of New York, except strictly for business or to convey their farm products to market, as the latter was their principal source of income. An old stage of ancient design ran from the "Liberty Pole Hotel," an old inn, whose history antedates the Revolution, to Hoboken. It carried no mail as the nearest post office was at Hackensack. It will hardly be realized that many who were born so near the city lived to a good old age, and passed away without ever having walked its busy streets. The voice of the first steam whistle awoke to new life the easy-going

residents of the valley of the "Over-peck." The inhabitants were an honest, industrious people, caring little for the busy world beyond them. Their friends, outside of their immediate neighborhood, were few. The entire population of a township comprised but a small number of names, as they married and intermarried, and were nearly all first, second or third cousins.

Fortunes were slowly accumulated, and seldom lost, as the people never speculated. Good health and old age were the rewards for their contented and temperate lives.

IV.

EMIGRATION TO THE SUBURBS.

THE population that sleep out of town, that go to and fro from every great city, is constantly increasing, and assumes an air of sympathy for all who cling to the stifling atmosphere of the city's noisy streets and the poisonous perfumes of its sewers and gas factories. The singing of birds in the early morning is better than the noisy horse car or the small vender of garden merchandise under your front windows.

But there are exceptions to all rules, as we have seen many delightful people return to the city after a short experience in the country. Still there is always a floating population that is as restless as the ocean waves.



J. Hyman Jones.

V.

THE BIRTH OF ENGLEWOOD.

To Mr. J. Wyman Jones belongs the credit of first presenting Englewood to the outside world. Being acquainted with several of the contractors and parties engaged in building the "Northern Railroad of New Jersey," Mr. Jones received letters explaining the opportunities this road would offer for opening new towns along its line. Quick to see the force of this advice he visited this valley, and after investigation, wisely chose the present site of Englewood and located a station. Mr. J. Wyman Jones purchased by contract one hundred and twenty-five acres of land bounded on the north and south by what is now Palisade

Avenue, and running from the "Overpeck Creek" to the Hudson River from Thomas W. Demarest and Garrett A. Lydecker, both of English Neighborhood, Hackensack Township, New Jersey. Mr. J. Wyman Jones named Utica as his residence at that time. This contract previously referred to was made in 1858. In June, 1859, Mr. Jones invited others to join him in this purchase. At that time Messrs. I. Smith Homans, Jr., Robert Bayles, and Byran Murray, Jr., each took a quarter interest in lands on the north side of Palisade Avenue. Mr. J. Wyman Jones, I. Smith Homans, Jr., and Sheppard Homans were the first New Yorkers to come into this valley for a permanent residence after the Northern Railroad was completed. Their zeal and enthusiasm inspired many others to join them in the new enterprise. J. Wyman Jones was practicing law. I. Smith Homans, Jr., with his father, published

the "Bankers' Magazine," and Sheppard Homans was actuary of the Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. I. Smith Homans, Jr., united with Mr. Jones at this time and entered heartily into the enterprise. In the spring of 1859 a few gentlemen met to consider a name for the territory they had just purchased. To Mr. J. Wyman Jones is due the credit of presenting the name of Englewood. Several other names were discussed, but Englewood was adopted. How the name was presented to the mind of Mr. Jones I cannot say. The farm above referred to formerly belonged to and was occupied a short time before by the Rev. C. T. Demarest, whose house was located on the site of the present Lyceum. In August, 1859, Mr. Jones had the lands surveyed, and a map of Englewood placed on file in the office of the county clerk at Hackensack.

At that time the birth of Englewood

may be said to have taken place. The territory of the place included six farms, said farms being long, narrow strips of land running from the creek to the Hudson River. At this time there was no Palisade Avenue nor even a street. Mr. Jones had the streets laid out, and gave the contract for grading and putting them in order. Stumps of trees had to be removed along the wooded part of them to make room for the road.

VI

“THE NORTHERN RAILROAD.”

THE Northern Railroad was completed about this time. It had wrecked two or three contractors in its construction, as was generally the case with new railroads forty years ago. A small station stood a little south of the old brick one that was abandoned some time ago. The road did not pay expenses for some time. Its bonds were unsalable at seventy and its stock at fifty cents on a dollar unless for the purpose of buying real estate. The little station had a brilliant christening the first night of its existence. A ball, attended by the lads and fair lasses of the valley, was kept up until the early hours of the morning, and

right and left, and all hands around, kept step with the music of a violin.

The road ran but one train a day for some time, and one passenger and baggage car accommodated the traveling public. The trains ran through the open cut into the Pennsylvania depot for some years. The company's removal to Chambers Street met with strong opposition by many of its patrons. Thomas W. Demarest was its first president and John Van Brunt was treasurer and a director.

The first train must have been an awakening to the minds of the people of this vicinity and filled them with astonishment as it went roaring up the valley like an uncaged lion. It was to be the last of their isolation from the world.

I presume many timid people made their wills and parted with reluctance and fear before taking passage for the first time.

C. C. Waters was the first depot master. C. W. Chamberlain took charge not long after and kept it to the satisfaction of the company and the public for many years.

VII.

THE FIRST TO ARRIVE.

IF any one will look at the map of Englewood, filed in 1858, he will observe that but three houses existed within its boundaries, one of which stood on the corner of Palisade Avenue and Engle Street.

Palisade Avenue was a rough mountain road, opened at first to convey railroad ties from the forest of the Palisades to the valley below.

J. Wyman Jones and family spent the summer of 1859 at the house of John Van Brunt, a half a mile south of the station.

Mr. I. Smith Homans, Sr., and family moved into the "Dominie Demarest"

house, corner of the avenue and Engle Street. This old dwelling was afterward enlarged and became a young ladies' high school, which a few years later was destroyed by fire.

The family of Mr. Homans occupied the only house on the east side of the railroad within the boundaries of the map of Englewood just filed. It extended its hospitality to the many people that visited the town. They were a family of fascinating courtesy, whose kind attention to strangers attracted many desirable people to this place. Their house was a sunny spot to their numerous friends.

VIII.

ENGLEWOOD'S EARLY RESIDENTS.

MR. J. WYMAN JONES and Mr. I. Smith Homans, Jr., devoted more time and energy in colonizing this valley than any residents within its boundaries, and they are most closely identified with the history of this town. They gave liberally toward the building of the first depot, the little stone chapel, the hotel known as the "Englewood House," the Athenæum, as well as several private residences, and the laying out and grading of streets, planting trees, and so forth. They labored and gave much toward the building of churches and the establishment of schools.

Mr. Sheppard Homans assisted his

brother with means to carry on all these improvements. He was an old and valued citizen, a delightful companion who took an active interest in Englewood affairs until his death in 1897.

IX.

AN EXCURSION.

ONE afternoon in the month of October, 1859, Mr. Byran Murray, Jr., stepped into my place of business, and in course of conversation informed me in glowing terms of a valley west of the Palisade forests, watered by the "Overpeck," and inhabited by an industrious people who had never enjoyed the benefits of rapid transit. The writer was also informed that a railroad had just been completed to Piermont, a distance of twenty-five miles from New York. He invited me to join himself and a number of friends on an excursion over this new road to the new station of Englewood. I accepted his kind invitation, as I had for a long time

desired to exchange the conventional life of a noisy city for forests, fields and streams.

On a beautiful morning in the month of October Messrs. J. Wyman Jones, I. Smith Homans, Robert Baylis, Bryan Murray, Jr., George S. Coe, Nathan T. Johnson, and the writer, took a train for Englewood, a new station on the "Northern Railroad," about fourteen miles from New York. It was a day to impress a lover of nature. The barren fields were to us an enchanted garden. Well cultivated farms sloped down to the valley from the west. Orchards of golden fruit and the scattered dwellings of the peaceful farmer made a picture to remember. The densely wooded Palisades on our right, and the well watered valley, were a revelation. The golden hues of autumn illuminated all nature. We arrived on time; there was no Englewood to greet us except in name. Not a lot had been

sold, not a building erected; but nature was here in all her glorious dress. We alighted at the little rough and ready station and after viewing our surroundings started for the home of Mr. I. Smith Homans, Sr., where we were kindly welcomed, and invited to partake of a luncheon that we shall ever remember with pleasure. After resting a short time we started out on the highway that led to the Hudson River. Undulating waves like the billows of the ocean carried us from plain to plain, from the valley to the Palisades, as the road ascends by successive valleys and plains all the way to the river. The air was laden with the breath of autumn; the sun shed a soft and mellow light; all nature was vocal with the song of birds, and the hum of insect life filled the air. When we arrived nearly opposite the present Presbyterian Church, my eye rested upon a beautiful piece of rolling ground, over

which not a tree or a shrub cast a shadow. In a business point of view I had gone far enough. It was love at first sight; I would have purchased that field then and there; I said, "If you wish me to make my dwelling in Englewood, there must be my home." This announcement caused a little embarrassment to two of the gentlemen present, as they had selected that identical spot for their homes. A desire to secure new settlers caused them to seriously consider the matter. After a few days' reflection, and upon my promise to erect a dwelling the following spring or return the land, I was permitted to make the purchase.

This plot of ground contained six acres, and had a frontage of six hundred feet on the present Palisade Avenue. I had been so accustomed to city lots that this seemed like a small farm. My house was completed in the time specified, and was occupied early in the spring of 1860.

To my personal property I added the usual household pets, which included a cat, a black and tan, and an animal to supply us with butter and milk. These animals all disappeared by accident, or otherwise; the dog lost his bark under the wheels of a butcher's cart, and the bovine lost her life in an attempt to derail a train running ten miles an hour. Nearly every one kept a cow at that time, as the fields were all unfenced and pasturage was free. This was the first contract given out, and the first dwelling built in Englewood after it received its name.

We continued our excursion to the Palisades. From that elevation a beautiful prospect was unfolded to view; we were surrounded by the silent forests, where cool shadows lie, looked down five hundred feet to the waters of the Hudson, and viewed its floating commerce as it passed to and fro on its business

mission. Then across to its eastern shore, stretching along like a fairy land, thence over the Sound to the distant cities and villages of Long Island. Notwithstanding these scenes have grown old like a garment—lost their novelty, and change of dress, the reader can hardly realize how beautiful, new, and fascinating they were to us at that time. The dust under our feet seemed grains of gold, and the views seemed priceless. We returned to the fields below, and continued through wild and tangled underbrush, over stone walls, and through shadowy lanes to the present village of Tenaflly.

On these elevated plains there was very little cultivation; stone walls of ancient construction, weeds, and wild vines covered the fields. Very little farm produce was raised on the east side of the valley. Rough roads and foot paths led from each farm up into the

mountains. These roads were used by the farmers to transport their fuel, and lumber. In those days we used to roam the forests in search of game without much fear of poisonous reptiles, but since that time, the farmer having retired, thick underbrush has grown up, the copperhead is unmolested, and primeval darkness, and silence reign. After a delightful tramp we returned to the station full of enthusiasm for the land we had discovered. The wild and uncultivated surroundings pleased us. Fortunately our youth and ambition fitted us for the years of toil and labor that lay unseen in the unrevealed future.

This excursion meant more for all of us than we realized at the time. On that day was laid the foundation of a city, and we were unconsciously drawing together in a close friendship which was to continue through our lives.

X.

A SCARCITY OF SUPPLIES.

FOR some time we had to buy our marketing and groceries, in fact all our family supplies, in New York, as the only grocery store was a very small one kept by Mr. John Van Brunt, and situated about a mile south of this village. We had no market or shop of any kind. It was not unusual for the heads of families to carry their baskets to and from the trains every day. The streets were new and we were obliged to drive through Jersey mud and deep sands, our wheels often sinking to the hubs. Our walks were nature's walks chiefly—almost impassable. If we missed a train, which sometimes oc-

curred, we would drive to Hoboken or remain at home; but distance and time have been annihilated by rapid-running and frequent trains. Going to and from the country is a simple matter compared to forty years ago.



FIRST CHURCH IN ENGLEWOOD.

XI.

MOVING TO THE COUNTRY.

THE early settler had to occupy farm-houses wherever he could find accommodation until new homes were erected. A great many families were settled miles away, families that afterward came to live within the village limits. The writer with his family went to reside with Mr. J. W. Deuell, the school teacher, until his house was completed. Mr. Byron Murray boarded with the same family. In this house was born the first child that was a native of Englewood after the place was named.

Englewood has to-day over six thousand inhabitants. On the 15th day of August, 1859, a map of Englewood was filed, of which the one shown in this

volume is a copy. On this map there are shown but three houses, one on the east side of the railroad, and two on the Tena-fly road. These were all farmhouses.

The only roads used by the old inhabitants that were laid out when this map was filed was the road now styled Grand Avenue, which ran north to Palisade Avenue; thence to the old "Liberty Pole Tavern," where one branched off to Schralenberg, another southwesterly toward Teaneck, and one to Tena-fly.

Hudson Terrace was to have been a beautiful drive along the margin of the Palisades, but for some unfortunate reason was abandoned.

The names on this map are those of the owners of the land when it was filed. Mr. J. Wyman Jones soon controlled, either by contract or deed, the most of these lands, but others soon became interested with him in the purchase and development.

XII.

WELCOMED BY THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS.

THE people that occupied their farms in the vicinity of Englewood welcomed the new settlers with friendly hospitality, and allowed them the freedom of their fields and gardens. The following are among those who are entitled to thanks for assistance rendered the founders of this village:

Thomas W. Demarest, John Van Brunt, James Vanderbeek, Garret A. Lydecker, Cornelius Lydecker, Henry J. De Mott, William H. DeRonde, Solomon Banta, J. J. De Mott, R. P. Wurtendyke, and many others.

These gentlemen have always taken a deep interest in Englewood affairs.

Mr. Cornelius Lydecker became interested at once in the purchase and sale of property, and in assisting to advance the interests of the town. He was a state senator at one time, and became a leading politician in Bergen County.

XIII.

THE CHURCH REMEMBERED.

A PLACE of worship was one of the first things to be thought of after the name of Englewood was given to this town. Mr. J. Wyman Jones and I. Smith Homans, Jr., donated the most beautiful spot in the town for a church, which will ever remain a monument to their foresight and generosity. The little stone chapel that stands at the entrance of the Brookside Cemetery was built on the site of the present Presbyterian Church, and completed in the spring of 1860.

As time passed on and the numbers of worshippers increased, it was enlarged twice, but was soon found to be too small, when it was removed to the ceme-

tery grounds and re-erected, stone by stone.

The worshippers in the little chapel came from every point of the compass and represented many different denominations. There were Episcopalians, Baptists, Presbyterians, Dutch Reformed, and Congregationalists. A meeting was called to determine the denomination to be adopted. The Presbyterians being in a majority that form was decided upon. It was organized the 30th day of May, 1860. A call was immediately placed in the hands of the Rev. James H. Dwight, who had been minister to the Union Congregation. The call was accepted and on the 20th of June, 1860, Mr. Dwight was installed first pastor. He continued in office until 1867, when in consequence of ill health he was obliged to retire and seek rest. On the 19th of September, 1867, the Rev. Henry M. Booth was ordained and installed as minister of this

church. His pastoral relations continued twenty-five years with wonderful success. Dr. Booth was very much beloved by his people, who parted with him because of failing health. His departure from Englewood was very much regretted by all, without regard to creed or denomination. Although absent his influence remains, and will continue for years to come. He was a true Christian teacher, whose footsteps led to the cottage of the poor as well as the mansion of the rich.

This religious society was formed with eighteen members from different churches. From this body three elders were chosen as follows:

Charles B. Nicholas, James Vanderbeek, Sheppard Homans. The first deacons elected were John J. DeMott and J. Wyman Jones. The names of the persons organizing this church are as follows: Mrs. Isabella S. McCulloch,

M. H. Church, Mrs. Caroline H. Church, Sheppard Homans, Mrs. Sallie S. Homans, William B. Dwight, Charles A. Nichols, Jeffrey A. Humphrey, Mrs. Julia F. Humphrey, John E. Jones, Mrs. John E. Jones, J. Wyman Jones, Mrs. Harriet Dana Jones, Mrs. Margaret Fisher, James Vanderbeek, Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek, Mrs. Margaret Van Brunt.

The Rev. James H. Dwight came from Cherry Valley, New York, where his first ministerial work was performed. When he came here the outlook was not brilliant for a young minister. His faith in the growth of the town was all he had to encourage him. The little church he started had but seventeen members, but through his earnest and devoted labors it rapidly increased in numbers until his resignation through ill health in 1867. He was much beloved by all his parishioners who parted with him with regret.



REV. JAMES HARRISON DWIGHT.

XIV.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIRST CHURCH.

I HAVE before me the original paper circulated in October, 1860, by the trustees of the first church organized in Englewood for the purpose of raising money to complete and furnish the same at once. The names and amounts subscribed are in the handwriting of the contributors, and as I survey this time-eaten document I am reminded that out of seventeen signers but four are living. This chapel was occupied seven or eight years when it was removed to the cemetery. I will only copy a part of the paper presented for subscribers. It reads as follows: "The undersigned trustees of the Englewood chapel are desirous

of having it completed and warming and lighting the same building, the stone wall, grading the grounds, etc." This amount was raised and the chapel turned over to the trustees free from debt. The following were the trustees and the amounts subscribed: I. Smith Homans, Jr., John Van Brunt, J. Wyman Jones.

SUBSCRIBERS.

J. Wyman Jones, \$250; I. S. and S. Homans, \$150; John Van Brunt, \$100; Nathan T. Johnson, \$100; J. A. Humphrey, \$100; C. A. Nichols, \$50; B. Murray and R. Bayles, \$50; George S. Coe, \$50; F. Howland, \$50; John J. De Mott, \$50; Blauvelt & Bogart, \$25; William Blanchard, \$25; W. A. Bremer, Jr., \$10; S. S. Wood, Jr., \$10; H. Van Zandt, \$10; J. H. Lyell, \$10; Hiram Slocum, \$10.

XV.

BUILDING IN THE PALISADES FOREST.

THE first house erected in the forest of the Palisades was in the fall of 1860. This house was about one-half mile from the Hudson River and was built by Nathan T. Johnson. It was framed in Boston, brought to the foot of the Palisades by water, taken to the foundation prepared for it and completed. After occupying it several years Mr. Johnson disposed of it to Colonel Henry W. Banks. This house was later destroyed by fire and an elegant stone mansion was erected in its place by Colonel Banks.

Mr. Nathan T. Johnson was one of the most active and enterprising men ever in this town. He gave up his business in

New York and devoted the rest of his life to the advancement of Englewood interests.

Much of his time was given to public affairs, and he filled many offices of public trust; he also became with others greatly interested not only in property in this village, but in lands beyond the borders of the township. He never had an enemy and died beloved and respected by all.

XVI.

A LARGE UNDERTAKING.

MR. NATHAN T. JOHNSON, Mr. J. Wyman Jones, Mr. I. Smith Homans, and the writer undertook in 1861 to purchase all the lands on the Palisades, running north from the avenue to "Clinton Point," a distance of two miles, and extending back to the valley. Every farm was purchased but one. As the sequel proved our prophetic judgment was at fault, for the shadows of these forests deepened and very little improvement followed.

This is now and always will be a beautiful spot, and the want of easy communication is the only cause of its remaining a forest.

The following is a copy of a legal document signed by these four gentlemen for the purchase and sale of this large tract of land. I copy it to show what advanced ideas for the future of the Palisades we had at that time. The document reads as follows:

“This indenture, made the first day of March, 1860, between Nathan T. Johnson and Jeffrey A. Humphrey, both of the City of New York, parties of the first part, and J. Wyman Jones and I. Smith Homans, Jr., of Englewood, New Jersey, parties of the second part, witnesseth that the said parties of the first part have heretofore purchased by the agency and personal assistance of J. Wyman Jones and I. Smith Homans, Jr., comprising said party of the second part, several parcels of land situate in the County of Bergen, fronting on the Palisades herein mentioned, for the purpose of selling such lands at an advanced price, and

upon speculation, and such lands were purchased under an agreement that the said parties of the first part should advance and furnish the money for the payment of the price thereof, and the parties of the second part should attend to the purchase thereof, and that the profits should be equally divided." The agreement goes on to describe each parcel separately. The price paid for said lands was from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars per acre.

The agreement was witnessed and signed by each in a legal manner. This extensive purchase, especially as Englewood was in its infancy, and as I did not know but we might be induced to include the whole of Bergen County, rather startled me. So in October, 1860, I sold out all my interests to Nathan T. Johnson. Not that I doubted the wisdom of the purchase, but being in business in New York I concluded to sell my interest

and improve lands in the village. At this time the same four gentlemen bought three acres of land on Engle Street, and built the Englewood House.

The building of the Englewood House was a grand conception, as from its portals a large percentage of its guests issued into homes they had built here and became valuable members of its society. It has never been in any sense a hotel. It has been a family home. It has fulfilled its mission by enriching the town if it has not always returned large dividends to its proprietors. It was the real estate exchange of Englewood.

This house was the social center of Englewood for many years, and was the means of making the village known to a great number who remained and became valuable citizens.

Among the first proprietors was Mr. Kingsley, who kept the Irving House in Broadway, New York, and later the Con-



THE ENGLEWOOD HOUSE.

tinental in Philadelphia. Many a delightful social gathering took place at this house in these days.

There was hardly a family in Englewood twenty years ago that had not spent a certain time within its walls. Receptions and dancing parties were often held here; billiard tables and bowling alleys were well patronized.

Of the many summer hotels that flourished along the railroad from New York to Nyack, the Englewood House was the only hotel that escaped destruction by fire. Many hotels were erected through this valley that are deserving of much credit for the part they performed in colonizing the different towns from New York to Nyack. Many dwellings were built in 1860. J. S. Messenger, Henry Van Zandt, Mr. Crowell, R. K. Cook all built on the avenue west of the Presbyterian Church. J. S. Messenger now occupies the house built by him years ago.

CHAPTER XVII.

BUILDING A NEW TOWN.

ENGLEWOOD having spread her sails for a-voyage of life, there was a great demand for mechanics and laboring men of all kinds. Houses had to be built for the occupation of all sorts and conditions of men, and material for their construction must naturally be brought from a distance. Many inconveniences had to be endured for a long time. Wells and cisterns must be excavated, fences built, hedges, trees and shrubs planted.

There was scarcely a tree to be seen on the land now occupied in this village. Our professional men and mechanics came from a distance.

The Rev. James H. Dwight and Wil-

liam B. Dwight came from Utica, Mr. Fowler from Cherry Valley, Mr. Henry Jones, John E. Jones and William C. Davis from Utica.

In 1860 the valley between the Teaneck Ridge and the Palisades, south to New York Bay and Snake Hill was free from obstructions of any kind. It was necessary to import the laboring man. To provide him a home a piece of land was purchased in the valley, and about a dozen small double houses were hastily erected. They were scattered over six or eight acres of land which might have been sold for water lots, as there was no drainage, and this land was overflowed several times a year. The landlord often collected his rent in rubber boots on a raft, and often not at all. These scattered houses were finally removed to a less conspicuous locality and look like a row of bath houses on a sandy beach as you enter the town from the south.

One of these houses was once a scene of an attempted Irish eviction. The landlord found it impossible to collect his rent, the New Jersey laws being too slow for the owner's purpose. So a carpenter was employed to take out the doors and windows, remove the roof, carry all to his shop and repair them some time. The windows and doors were removed, but the spectators increasing rapidly, the removal of the roof was countermanded. The occupant of this humble dwelling stood in the opening where the door should have been, using language not proper to repeat. The carpenter with his load returned to his shop, the owner to his other duties, to await developments. These came in the form of a summons to appear at "Fort Lee," as Englewood's justice of the peace had not arrived. The landlord appeared before Judge Fitzgerald, where, having political influence, he came off victorious.

Developments continued, as the owner was summoned to appear at Hackensack before Judge Knapp. When asked whether he was guilty or not guilty he pleaded ignorance of the law and escaped with a fine of five dollars. This experience was enough for a lifetime. The landlord ordered the windows and doors restored. The tenant left and he was happy.

XVIII.

MALARIA AND MOSQUITOES.

As New Jersey is said to be the home of the mosquito it is not strange that upon arriving we found a few in this valley. We did not encourage or cultivate that aggressive, musical insect, as he lives on foul air, malaria and human gore. Since our town has been thoroughly drained and our lawns well trimmed, this disturber of our peace has disappeared to South Jersey, with headquarters at Bergen Point. We had trouble with this insect in early days when inviting emigration to this town, as we all know they are the enemy of man and beast, have no friends, and are despised by a mule.

“Are there mosquitoes in Englewood?” was the question asked and repeated by all contemplating a residence here. Fortunately that question is seldom asked to-day.

Malaria departed about the same time as the mosquito, and is seldom heard of at the present time. It was disagreeably present for several years after Englewood was founded. Want of drainage and bringing decayed vegetable matter to the surface caused this noxious disease to come to the front. This is always an objection to emigrants to a new location, and Englewood was no exception.

We went as far as the law allowed toward denying its presence to any extent. It never kills but tortures, and one never knows whether he has malaria, is tired, seasick or in love. This disease does not take to civilization, and with our improvements it has disappeared.

XIX.

WHEN OUR WELLS RUN DRY.

For a long time we suffered for want of water and drainage. Our tanks were supplied from wells and cisterns, as all the water used must be pumped to the tops of our houses. This often consumed the time of our servants many hours each day. Our wells frequently ran dry, and we were compelled to purchase water, paying one dollar for each load. We seemed to have long periods of drouth in those days, and suffered very much for the want of refreshing showers. Lawns were almost destroyed, as they were newly made. For want of paved watercourses and culverts our streets and walks were badly washed by fresh-

ets. But we did not complain. The seasons went their merry rounds, life had a rosy hue. We knew in time all things would come to us when we would enjoy the fruit of our labors.

I am not sure but there was far more pleasure in that busy life with all its discomforts than at the present time when we have so many comforts at hand and so little to do.

XX.

EFFECT OF THE CIVIL WAR.

THE Civil War checked the growth of Englewood for several years, and its inhabitants became imbued with the spirit of patriotism, when every city, village and hamlet turned from peaceful pursuits to war.

This village made very slow progress during the period of the rebellion.

A military company was formed under the captaincy of Nathan T. Johnson. Mr. Andrew D. Bogart tendered the second story of his carpenter shop on Palisade Avenue for a drill room. Some time after Mr. W. B. Dwight offered a room in his school building. The town was on fire with patriotism, and nearly all

able-bodied men joined the ranks and appeared with their muskets regularly for drill. Many members of this company volunteered, entered the Twenty-second New Jersey regiment and marched to the defense of their country.

In the autumn of 1861 the Rev. Mr. Dwight obtained leave of absence to serve as chaplain of the Sixty-sixth Regiment of New York volunteers. He was presented with a military outfit, including a fine saddle horse, by his friends. He entered the army with enthusiasm and earned the name of fighting chaplain. He served under Burnside, McClellan and General Richardson, and acted in many capacities as chaplain, aid-de-camp, surgeon, etc. He was a brave soldier and highly respected by his regiment.

Captain William P. Coe, brother of Mr. George S. Coe, is a veteran of the Civil War, where he saw much hard service.

He entered the army as captain of Company A, One Hundred and Sixth New York State Volunteers, and was stationed under General Banks at New Orleans. He was captured in one of the engagements and suffered twenty-two months' imprisonment at Tyler, Texas. Captain Coe was in several battles under General Banks. He was a stranger to fear, as has been proven on several occasions.

Captain Coe came to Englewood to live in 1866, and made his home on Teaneck Ridge, near the residence of William Walter Phelps. He organized and became captain of Company B, Second Battalion, National Guard State of New Jersey, and brought it to a high state of efficiency.

XXI.

OUR FIRST TONSORIAL PROFESSOR.

WITH the different business enterprises in the early years came the barber, whose life here was a failure. He was a half-witted foreigner, who became unpopular by his indiscretions and queer actions. His departure from town was hastened by a gathering of citizens who had prepared a bucket of tar and feathers for a dress suit. The tar and feathers were ready, but in the excitement a few citizens took pity on him and ran him through a building to the depot, put him into a box car and sent him out of town.

XXII.

A RAILROAD EXPERIENCE.

I do not recall but one accident on our railroad where any one was seriously injured. In 1860 the down train when near New Durham left the track and ran some distance over the ties. Every seat was destroyed in one car; people were thrown in every direction and against each other, and many were badly injured. I was hurled against a red-hot stove and received an injury that confined me to my house nearly two weeks. We had no smoking-car, and several of our Englewood boys, not to be deprived of their cigars, occupied a box car that was not provided with seats or chairs of any kind. When the performance was over and the doors unfastened these young men were found very much mixed and

with many bruises. They were exceedingly grateful to be released from their dangerous position.

Our trains have been running to and fro like a weaver's shuttle for forty years, and the history of the road has been very free from accidents.

XXIII.

“THE LIBERTY POLE TAVERN.”

ONE of the most interesting and historic landmarks in this neighborhood was the old “Liberty Pole Tavern.” This old inn antedated the Revolution, and was one of the numerous Washington headquarters. It stood in the center of Palisade Avenue, where it intersects the Tenaflly road. This was the political center for spring and fall elections for some years after the village was established. The principle liquid that stimulated discussion was apple jack, a strictly New Jersey business beverage that has practically gone out of use.

The old hotel and bar were always wide open on election day, and there was



LIBERTY POLE TAVERN.

no limit to the quantity of apple jack one might wish to consume. Tickets were not deposited in boxes as at present. Voters passed in line, calling out their names and the ticket they wished to vote.

Until 1858 the Democrats had no opposition and there was but one Prohibition vote cast, which was deposited by Mr. Coxhead, who came all the way from Fort Lee to vote.

Mr. J. W. Deuell deposited the only Republican vote at this time.

Many exciting scenes took place at these elections after the war, and hand to hand encounters were frequent.

One I shall never forget. The war was over and soldiers had all returned. Spring election was being held at the "Liberty Pole Tavern."

The polls and the bar were both open. Apple jack was the rallying spirit, and many knockouts were taking place.

Colonel Jardine, who had returned

with the army, appeared on crutches, having lost a leg on the field of battle.

The fighting colonel overhearing a remark not complimentary to the Union soldier, cast aside his crutches, and added another victory to his laurels.

The Stars and Stripes were unfurled from the top of the old "Liberty Pole" that stood near the hotel on every patriotic occasion. The old tavern and its banner having served their purpose, they were removed and the hotel changed to a private dwelling, where it stands a silent monument of the past, unrecognized and forgotten. History tells us that the old "Liberty Pole Tavern" stood on a triangle, on one side of which was the tavern, on another Washington's headquarters, and on a third a stone schoolhouse. This school building was taken down and removed to Highwood in 1848, where it stands at the present time. It was removed to a more thickly

settled farming district. Could they have looked fifty or even twenty years into the future the school building would have remained.

XXIV.

OUR FIRST POSTMASTER.

ENGLEWOOD existed some time before it was considered worthy of a post office. Its citizens were obliged to go to Hackensack or New Durham for their mail, as Englewood was a part of Hackensack township until 1871, and the government of this community was carried on at Hackensack until then.

Our township extends from the Hackensack River to the Hudson River, or did until reduced by boroughs east and west, and was created in 1871. Our first township committee was elected April 10, 1871, consisting of Albert J. Bogart, James Venderbeek, Samuel J. Demarest, John W. DeRonde, and Peter R. Christie.

The number was afterwards reduced to three members. The last committee to govern the township was Oliver D. Smith, James Harris, and J. M. Gulnac. Mr. John Van Brunt was the first postmaster of this village. He erected the large building on the avenue near the railroad, in which he kept the post office, also the first grocery store. This building is now owned, and a part of it occupied, by Mr. Henry J. De Mott.

Offices in this building were occupied a long time by Squire Joseph B. Miller, who was justice of the peace, magistrate, lawyer, trustee of small estates, schoolmaster, etc., etc. Squire Miller was our protecting power in the early years of Englewood. Previous to this period he taught school near Schraalenbergh two years. He was justice of the peace twenty-five years, also was confidential adviser and transacted business for a great many of the old inhabitants in this

vicinity. He was judge and jury, prosecuting attorney and general superintendent of the affairs of the village. He, as a rule, discharged the restless element with a fatherly reprimand, and was most always present to witness the arrival and departure of trains. For many years he occupied a peculiar position—a position now extinct.

Squire Miller was a kind-hearted and useful citizen in his day, but his smiling face we never shall see again.

We never have had the typical “local character;” he has become extinct or very much modified; education, modern society, and death have settled him.

His dissolution was taking place about the time Englewood was founded. It was not instantly killed; but died a lingering death and passed away without attracting any notice. But there is a satisfaction in knowing that every generation is ascending to a higher level.

We have had a number of village squires who were guardians of our peace for a long time, but their services are no longer in demand.

One we have with us, but he is no longer in office.

Squire Alexander Cass, the veteran school-teacher of this vicinity, has had a varied experience, having been school-teacher, lawyer, justice of the peace, county superintendent of schools, surveyor, etc., etc. Mr. Cass has long been a useful man in all these varied pursuits. He, like many others, is living in the past and contrasting the government of Englewood years ago with that of to-day when we are a city with a mayor and council, and a court presided over by a real judge. Moreover the town is patrolled by a large police force.

XXV.

OUR FIRST PHYSICIAN.

AMONG the few that remain of the early settlers of this village is Dr. Hardy M. Banks, who came here to reside in 1860, having given up a good practice in New York City, where he had already established a reputation as a skillful surgeon. There was very little to encourage a young physician in a town with so few inhabitants, but his prophetic eye saw in the near future a prosperous town, and he readily joined the pioneers in the settlement of this village. He was our first and only physician for many years—one who not only attended to the ills that nature is heir to, but identified himself at once in public affairs.

He was president and director of the Protection Society for five years, and is now, after forty years' residence here, president of the Gentleman's Club. It may be an evidence of his skill as a physician that Englewood did not feel the need of a cemetery until 1876, sixteen years after his arrival. Forty years have come and gone since he entered this town and his eye and nerve are still steady. He has the confidence and good will of the people of this township.

Dr. Banks is a good sportsman, and a lover of dogs that follow the chase. He often takes a rest from his professional duties by tramping the fields and forests in search of game.

Dr. D. A. Baldwin came to Englewood in 1871, and is one of the three physicians who first settled in this place. He immediately entered into a large practice, which steadily increased for years. He has been a very skillful and success-

ful physician, who has always enjoyed the confidence and good will of the best families in this town.

Dr. D. A. Currie came here in March, 1872, and has always been very successful as a surgeon and general practitioner, which is attested by the large practice he has controlled for over twenty-five years.

Dr. Currie has devoted much time in the interest of the village. As a road commissioner, to which office he was elected several times, he gave entire satisfaction. He was a member of the township government until it was succeeded by the city government, when he was elected mayor. He was captain of our militia, and when the Spanish-American war broke out was appointed lieutenant-colonel, and served in his regiment until the close of the war.

XXVI.

PROSPEROUS TIMES.

THE civil war was ended, peace was proclaimed and man returned to his civil duties. Englewood took on new life. New buildings were erected, new streets laid out, wells and cisterns excavated and trees planted in great numbers.

From 1863 to 1868 a great many of our most wealthy and enterprising citizens made this town their home. Nearly all that came at that time remained as permanent residents. They invested in lots, and built their own houses or purchased from those who had built. Land was cheap as well as labor and material, and there was never a better opportunity to

turn broad acres into suburban homes than here at that time.

Francis Howland came here in 1861, and immediately took a lively interest in building up this place. He soon gave up his interest in the Cotton Exchange in New York, and devoted all his time to the interests of this town. He purchased a large tract of land in the center of the village, containing about thirty acres and built a fine stone mansion. This property he afterward sold to Judge Cowan of Washington, D. C.

Mr. Howland joined I. S. Homans, Nathan T. Johnson and William Walter Phelps in the purchase of a large tract of land. They called it the Three-third Account, as Mr. Phelps paid cash for his one-quarter interest, leaving the three gentlemen engaged with him to assume the incumbrances. Mr. Phelps took the bull by the tail and not by the horns, that he might let go when he had a mind

to as advised by "Josh Billings," the lands in time all returned to their original owners.

After selling his house to Judge Cowan Mr. Howland erected a fine stone dwelling on Lincoln Street. Mr. Howland's contribution to the growth of Englewood continued many years, and his name should be classed with its most enterprising citizens.

Lebbeus Chapman, Jr., came here in 1863, and made his home on Teaneck Ridge. He entered into every local enterprise that could advance the interests of the town.

He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church, was an officer in the Protection and many other societies. He was a friend of every one, and could crack a joke or talk Blackstone as occasion required, and never took a retainer for advice given outside of his office.

Colonel Washington R. Vermilye came

in 1868, and purchased a fine house of Mr. Bryan Murray, Jr., on Palisade Avenue. He was one of our most liberal and courteous citizens, a man of great benevolence and upright in all his dealings. He took a great interest in all public affairs, and gave freely when called upon. He was a true friend and adviser, both in the interest of the church and the state.

Mr. David Hoadley moved to Englewood in 1864 and purchased an elegant home opposite that of Colonel Vermilye on Palisade Avenue. He was a man universally loved and respected, a generous dispenser of charity and a person of influence in the village of Englewood.

Mr. Daniel Drake Smith came here to reside in 1863, and became identified at once with the development of the village, took a great interest in its growth and gave liberally for the advancement of its affairs. He built a delightful

home, the grounds of which occupy nearly a block, running from Lydecker to Hillside streets.

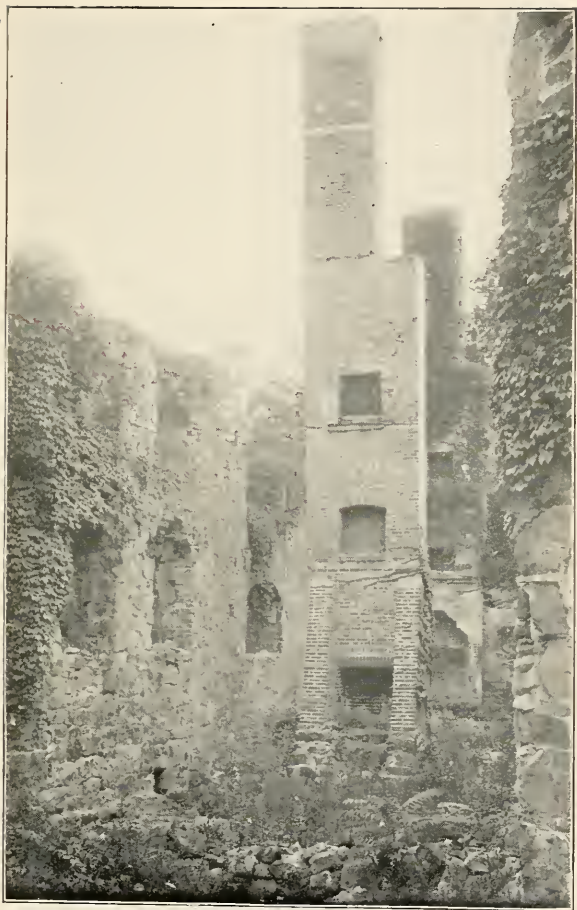
Mr. Livingston K. Miller arrived in 1860, and united at once with the citizens of Englewood in every interest that would assist in the development of the town. He was generous and liberal whether in the support of the church, of which he was an elder, or in the interests of the village. He built a large stone mansion on the Knickerbocker Road, an estate containing about thirty acres, laid out with fine drives and walks, a beautiful lawn, fruits and flowers.

Mr. George S. Coe, president of the American Exchange Bank in New York City, purchased a large tract of land on Palisade Avenue, and built a fine house which he afterwards disposed of to D. W. Evans; he then erected a large stone mansion on the Palisades overlooking the

Hudson River. Mr. Coe was a man of public spirit and liberality, and was a delightful companion. His name was never absent when it was called upon to assist in the interest of Church or State. He was a wise and unselfish man, whose sympathies were broad.

Mr. William A. Booth came to Englewood in 1866. He had been one of New York's most foremost citizens, was one of the founders of the Children's Aid Society, and was interested in many other charities. He was a great acquisition to the people of this town. He was a shining light for many years, and was ever ready with open hand to assist the poor and needy or to promote the interests of this village. He was a man of large influence, and his example and conversation were ever safe to follow.

Mr. William Walter Phelps took up his residence in this township in 1868. He was a man of large means, of which he



RUINS OF HON. W. W. PHELPS' HOUSE, TEANECK.

gave liberally for the purpose of elevating and ennobling the human race. A large estate was purchased by him on Teaneck, comprising over two thousand acres of land. He became largely interested in real estate in Bergen County, and his brilliant political career is a matter of history. He was a minister to Austria and Germany for some time, also was elected to Congress two terms. His attractive home on Teaneck, which was always open to his many friends, was destroyed by fire and never restored. It remains to-day a charming ruin with its crumbling walls overgrown with running vines and surrounded by beautiful lawns and forest shade.

The house and the master are no more, but his friends will not forget his hospitable board and the many pleasant evenings enjoyed in that delightful home.

Many miles of macadamized roads, through forests and open country, over

hills and through valleys, are enjoyed and appreciated by the people of Englewood.

General Thomas B. Van Buren was a brother-in-law of the Honorable William Walter Phelps, and came here to reside about the same time. His home was near that of Mr. Phelps on Teaneck. He was a genial, cultivated man, and a friend of all who came in contact with him.

He was a soldier, a statesman and a fine speaker. He was at one time minister to China and occupied many political positions while a resident in Englewood.

Mr. Jacob S. Wetmore took up his residence in Englewood in 1867, and evinced an active interest in its affairs. He has filled many public positions in the village government and has been closely identified with all village improvements and will be remembered as one of Englewood's early pioneers and useful citizens.

He has assisted in building up the town and still owns much real estate here.

Mr. Charles A. Nichols became a resident here in 1860, and identified himself with the founders of the village in all their various interests. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church and was one of its active and useful members. Mr. Nichols was a very genial and interesting man in society, and was very highly respected by all who knew him.

Mr. James O. Morse came here about 1863, bought a fine property on the Tenaflly road at the head of Demarest Avenue of Mr. Solomon Banta. He was a useful citizen, one of the founders of the gas company, an officer in the Protection Society, and interested in all public improvements.

Mr. William B. Dana reached Englewood as a resident in 1866. He purchased a large tract of land on the Palisades and built a fine mansion. He took

an active interest in the public road board and many other village improvements.

The history of Englewood would be incomplete without reference to Mr. E. A. Brinkerhoff, who came here to reside in 1874. Mr. Brinkerhoff built a fine stone mansion on the corner of Palisade Avenue and Lydecker Street, and immediately united with the citizens of this village in the advancement of all its interests. There is not a society, either for charity, education, the church, or affairs of the Englewood government to which he does not devote his full share in time and means. The mantle of Colonel W. R. Vermilye, his father-in-law, could not have fallen on better shoulders. Mr. Brinkerhoff is one of Englewood's most worthy citizens. He is an elder and also a trustee in the Presbyterian Church, and has devoted much time and money to its interests. He is an officer

in many village institutions, and is a valuable neighbor and friend.

Mr. Donald Mackay, of the old banking house of Vermilye & Company, New York City, deserves an honored place in Englewood history. He settled in this town in 1867, and at once became actively interested in all its affairs. Mr. Mackay married a daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Daniel Wise, and has for years devoted much time and means to the promotion of nearly every enterprise that has been presented since his residence in this town. He is now president of the Citizens' National Bank, in which he takes a great interest. He was for some time president of the Protection Society, the Field Club, and the Gentleman's Club. Mr. Mackay is a trustee of the Presbyterian Church, and has always contributed largely to its support since he came to reside in Englewood. He owns a delightful home on Dwight Place.

Colonel Henry W. Banks came to Englewood in 1867 and purchased a fine house with several acres of land of Nathan T. Johnson. This property is situated on Palisade Avenue about a half-mile from the Hudson River.

This was the first house built in the forest of the Palisades. It was destroyed by fire a few years later and replaced by a beautiful stone mansion, where, surrounded by forest shades, Colonel Banks spends his leisure hours.

He owns a large amount of improved real estate in Englewood, and has long been identified with all its duties whether in the interests in the village government or affairs of the church. He is a citizen who takes pleasure in sharing the responsibilities that surround him.

In addition to all who have been mentioned the following are worthy of notice: Honorable Cullum Sawtelle, Henry A. Lyman, Charles H. Waterbury, Frank B.

Nichols, E. W. Andrews, William Stanley, Vincent Tilyou, Robert J. Hunter, R. K. Cook, D. R. Martin, John Bailey, T. M. Wheeler, George R. Dutton, S. H. Doughty, James L. Dawes, J. Hugh Peters, William T. Booth, Herbert B. Turner, Charles G. Kellogg, Charles A. Trott, John H. Lyell, Joseph Lyman, R. H. Rochester, Charles A. Platt, E. C. Dillingham. These are all men who have been long identified with the social and moral interests of Englewood.

XXVII.

OUR SCHOOLS.

OUR sons and daughters were growing up and we were not to be deprived of the privilege of education. Mr. J. W. Deuell had opened a school for boys. The public school was too far away to send our children. About this time Professor August Kursteiner opened a school for young boys, which prospered for several years. Mr. Kursteiner prepared many of our young men for college. He also taught music in several private families, and he was the first organist of the Presbyterian Church.

In the spring of 1860 Messrs. Dwight and Fowler opened a school for young ladies, in a building that stood on the cor-



DWIGHT SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.



A MOUNTAIN ROAD.

ner of Palisade Avenue and Engle Street. Mr. William B. Dwight of that school was a brother of our first pastor. This was a boarding school, and it became very popular from the start, attracting young ladies from several States. Many of these young ladies were received into Englewood society, and a few married and remained here.

The Rev. Thomas G. Wall succeeded Mr. William Dwight, kept the school about one year, when it was consumed by fire. Dr. Wall built a large school building on the corner of the avenue and Hill Side Street. He was a very popular man, who became interested in Englewood affairs beyond his school, and owned at one time a considerable amount of real estate. His successors still carry on this school, and it is in a flourishing condition.

When this village was founded the public school was not forgotten, as it is free to all classes of citizens, and of vast im-

portance in all communities in this age of the world's history; as it is about the only benefit we receive without paying for, we appreciate it.

The large free school building situated on Humphrey Street and Englewood Avenue was completed in 1869. There was some opposition to its location by a few citizens when it was built, but it seemed to meet the wants of the greatest numbers.

After a few years an increase of population demanded more room. Larger grounds were purchased and the building greatly enlarged. This school numbers about one thousand pupils, and has always been supplied with able teachers. Having become too small for its needs, several private houses were rented in different parts of the district to receive the overflow.

A beautiful stone building was erected a few years ago by a few enterprising

citizens on Engle Street, north of the village for a boys' high school. This school supplies a great want, as it permits our boys to remain at home while preparing for college.

There is a school building situated at Teaneck that has been of great service to that neighborhood. This building was occupied for Sabbath School instruction for years. Mr. Lebbeus Chapman, Jr., was superintendent of this school until his death. He devoted much time to his work, and the school is one of the monuments that serves to keep green his memory for his labor as superintendent of this Sabbath School.

This Sabbath School work has been successfully carried on for several years by George S. Coe, Jr., who is entitled to credit for his devotion to its service, besides a sacrifice of time and energy.

Misses Creighton and Farrar are the successors of the original Dwight school,

for girls, they having succeeded the Rev. Dr. T. G. Wall. This popular and successful school has a very large number of scholars and is a credit to the town. Its numbers are constantly increasing and its present management is a credit to its principals.

Miss Gerrish's Collegiate School for Girls has long been a leading school for young ladies in this village. It occupies the Englewood House, which has been recently modernized and refurnished. It is a very large and delightful building and has a great many scholars that make their home with Miss Gerrish. This school is very popular and prosperous and the instruction very thorough. It has two departments, one collegiate where girls are fitted for colleges open to women and one for scholars who do not care to enter college. The instruction includes French, German, and instrumental and vocal music.

XXVIII.

THE HOSPITAL.

NORTH of the village near the boys' high school stands the hospital, a noble charitable institution, that has been of great benefit to this valley. The thanks of many a poor sufferer is due to the founders of this institution. The hospital was erected in 1890.

A few kind-hearted ladies and gentlemen, seeing the great necessity for a hospital in Englewood, met at the house of Miss Adeline Sterling and organized a hospital movement. Prominent among the movement in the matter who attended this meeting were:

Mrs. Sheppard Homans, Miss Adeline Sterling, Mrs. Stephen Clark, Dr. H. M.

Banks, Dr. John A. Wells, Dr. Edward Clark, Miss Laura D. Smith, Mrs. Campbell Mortimer, Mrs. John A. Wells, Miss Gerrish, and Mr. and Mrs. William Stanley, and a few others whose names are unintentionally omitted. These ladies and gentlemen have continued their interest and contributed of their time and means ever since the hospital was founded.

A board of officers was appointed, consisting of Mrs. Sheppard Homans, president; Mrs. John A. Wells, vice-president; Miss Adeline Sterling, secretary, and Mrs. C. Mortimer, treasurer.

A board of physicians and surgeons was duly appointed, consisting of the following, who gave their services gratuitously and agreed to visit the patients daily:

Dr. D. A. Currie and Dr. H. M. Banks to act as physicians, and Dr. Edward Clark and Dr. J. A. Wells to act as surgeons.

A fund was soon raised to purchase three acres of land opposite the Field Club and a suitable building was erected at a cost of seven thousand dollars. The expenses are met by an appropriation from the city, annual subscribers, the kindness of people from neighboring towns, etc. A training school for nurses has recently been established, and there are seven now taking the course.

Over a thousand patients have enjoyed the benefits of hospital care, and undoubtedly hundreds of lives have been spared to the country by the endeavors of those interested in this charity.

The following comprise the present medical board and board of governors:

Dr. D. A. Currie, J. A. Wells, and Dr. Proctor, with attending physicians and surgeons.

Drs. Lansing, Hüger, Haring and Terry comprise with the former gentlemen the medical board.

The following comprise the board of governors: Mrs. Clinton H. Blake, president; Mrs. J. O. Clephane, vice-president; Lewis Dawes, secretary; George P. Payson, treasurer, and a board of twenty-five governors.



THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

XXIX.

THE FIELD CLUB.

DIRECTLY opposite the high school stands the building erected in 1893 by the Field Club. The grounds are used for ball, tennis, and golf games. This beautiful clubhouse, with its attractive surroundings leading into the borders of the Palisade forest, which include a skating pond, forms a charming picture to those who visit the grounds on a pleasant summer afternoon. This club has had many efficient officers, but we cannot contemplate this house and its surroundings without giving much credit to Mr. Donald Mackay, who has devoted so much time and money for its success. This club carries us back to the early

days of Englewood, when, notwithstanding her busy life, she spent some time in harmless amusements. The first ball ground occupied was about 1862, in the valley near the public school. There was no canvas or foliage to screen us from the summer's sun, and the only seats we had were borrowed from some neighboring house. Many members of this club were formerly members of the best clubs in New York City. From these grounds they removed to Palisade Avenue, opposite the present residence of Mr. E. A. Brinkerhoff. From there they went again to the block bounded by Engle and King streets and Hamilton Avenue. These grounds were abandoned, as they were all wanted for building purposes. The first officers of the Field Club were Dwight A. Jones, president; David W. Evans, vice-president; John E. Curren, secretary; Livingston K. Miller, treasurer.

The first billiard table imported into Englewood was by the writer in 1860. This table, although much enjoyed, and around which many a real estate trade was made, was a very primitive affair. It was purchased in New Haven, Connecticut, from a Mr. Bishop. The bed was not marble but composition. It was large enough for a small village lot, and had six enormous pockets. This table rested in the attic of the first house built in this village, and gave much amusement to all neighbors.

The example was followed by several citizens later on.

It was not unusual for a family who had just completed and occupied a new house to be invited to call upon a neighbor or leave home for some reason, return and find his dwelling illuminated and occupied by nearly the whole village, who had loaded his table with a fine repast.

Old customs that were enjoyed so much in those days exist only in memory. Such as the general custom of New Year's calls, when the whole village was moving from house to house until late in the evening and then returned to their homes, happy to think the custom only occurred once in twelve months. Glee clubs were formed and Romeos, singly or in numbers, spent many a moonlight night discoursing sweet music to their Juliets.

The serenading party was sometimes invited to enter the house and partake of refreshments. Flowers were thrown from the windows, or if the Romeo happened to be a discarded lover he sang to the stars. The mothers and daughters remained at home in those days, and their dwellings were the center of society, where music and songs were always heard.

The customs of society have made a

radical change, and duties and obligations of old days have passed. For many years Englewood was too busy to enter into outside history, such as the colonial fields of autobiography, and to sit under ancestral banners, as is the custom to-day. We had no women's clubs or Daughters of the Revolution at that period.

XXX.

ENGLEWOOD GOLF CLUB.

EARLY in 1896 a meeting was held by a few gentlemen to form a golf club, as a general interest in this game had started in this country, and Englewood, not to be behind the times was among the first of the suburban towns to adopt a game whose name came from the land of the thistle and the clans. It may be safe to say that all those present at the meeting when the club was formed knew very little about the game.

The founders of golf in Englewood were Messrs. E. H. Jewett, E. H. Booth, W. W. Burnit, F. Enos, Herbert Copple, Charles Neave, H. M. Banks, Thomas Thatcher, and W. W. Mackay.

On the 28th of February, 1896, the

club was regularly organized and a board of governors and officers duly elected.

A piece of land was leased for the purpose between Englewood and Nordhoff, a small clubhouse was erected, and a competent professional, Harry Stark, was engaged to lay out the course.

Sixty-one men and fifty-five women joined the club the first season.

In 1897 the grounds were enlarged by leasing about fifty acres of land south of the old course. A handsome clubhouse was erected at an expense of five thousand dollars and the grounds were put in a condition to compare with any nine hole in the vicinity of New York.

The club numbers at present one hundred and twenty-five men and one hundred women, and it has decided to increase the number to one hundred and seventy-five men and one hundred and fifty women. Forty-five acres has been leased by the club adjoining the present

property, and a full eighteen whole course is now in process of completion. The clubhouse has recently been enlarged and improvements are constantly being made. This popular game from the land of tweeds and plaids is one of the features of Englewood and is very accessible to this city, as a trolley passes the grounds, and it is in easy walking distance. It is in a delightful retired situation on the western slope of the Palisades, surrounded by a forest on the east and peaceful farms sloping down to the valley on either side.

The clubhouse is on an elevation of about three hundred feet above the valley, and the view from its spacious piazzas looking west is magnificent, making it a delightful place for rest or recreation.

The present board of officers are: Thomas Thacher, president; A. T. Enos, vice-president; G. H. Burnit, secretary; E. P. Ryder, treasurer.

THE HOSPITAL.



XXXI.

MUSIC AND SONG.

IN the early days of this village entertainments were enjoyed within doors when music and song were heard in every dwelling. Nearly every house had a piano, and the air was vocal with music as you passed along the streets; family gatherings to listen to vocal or instrumental music were a nightly occurrence. We had in our village many charming voices, both male and female.

Our churches were all supplied with volunteer choirs, and the music was never more appreciated than in those days when our houses were all concert halls.

Open air is the craze to-day, and everybody is on the run.

A musical club was formed in the early days, which was presided over by Professor August Kursteiner, and became very popular. Concerts were frequently given in the old Atheneum and very much enjoyed.

Echoes of those fine voices often flash through the mind, calling back to memory Englewood's good old days of music and song.

XXXII.

PLANTING TREES.

IN 1860 there were very few trees that were the result of chance, and the absence of shade caused many to hesitate before deciding to locate here. Every farm included an apple orchard in full bearing, but these orchards soon disappeared.

Nearly all the maples, evergreens and shrubs that give you summer shade were planted almost forty years ago. The beautiful trees that line our avenues and streets to-day are the forethought of Englewood's first inhabitants, and came from the nurseries of Mr. G. V. Zingsam near Hackensack.

Many of us will ever remember Mr.

Zingsam's kind hospitality, as his cellar, stocked with foreign wines, was always open when we called, and he not only escorted us through his beautiful, highly cultivated grounds, but welcomed our families into his spacious mansion.

Mr. Zingsam lived to supply many towns throughout the county with shade and flowers, but through the devious changes of fortune died leaving very little to show for his labor.

XXXIII.

FRUIT TREES.

WITH our many improvements we did not neglect the fruit tree. We planted many varieties, but early discovered that the pear, apple, and cherry were the only kind to succeed in this climate. Nearly all our fruit trees came from the Rochester nurseries.

There were a few large peach orchards near here in 1860, but they were in a decline, and that delicious fruit soon disappeared from this part of New Jersey.

Our enthusiasm led us to experiment in all kinds of fruits and flowers until experience taught us which to choose and which to reject.

The absence of gardens and florists

compelled us to rely upon our own grounds for vegetables and flowers, whereas to-day we can purchase cheaper than we can produce, and our gardens are taken care of by nature.

Very few people realize what a native New Jersey Road is like, or the labor and expense it takes to transfer a sand foundation to one of crushed stone. With the exception of the old country road following the creek along the valley there were no roads except imaginary ones as laid down on the first map filed in 1859. Our old road board must have expended a quarter of a million dollars on the streets of this town before it retired.

XXXIV.

AN OLD ORCHARD.

WHAT delightful associations cluster around an old orchard. It is a wise law of nature that in looking back down the pathway of life we only see things in their most beautiful dress. One of the delightful spots I love to rehabilitate in memory is an old orchard of my father's. I never see it in its cold and leafless undress, when the chilling blasts of winter are sighing through its branches, but always in full bloom with their varied colors illuminated by the summer sun, the air fragrant with perfumed sweets, and the voice of a thousand insects. A boy who has not experienced this has missed much.

This same scene was re-enacted after

I came to Englewood. All around us were old apple orchards. Just west of my house on Palisade Avenue an open field led to an orchard which extended to the present Hill Side Street. Under the shades of these old fruit trees we used to take our children and pass the hours away. The dying remains of these old orchards may be seen all over the village, but the gnawing tooth of time has nearly completed their destruction, as seen in their dead limbs and decayed trunks.

From my window I look out upon a half dozen of these old apple trees that have hardly life enough to throw out a leaf or cast a shadow, but the sight of them *rings up* memories of forty years ago.

“We have all grown old together—
Those trees and I,
And shall depart forever—
By and by.”



THE FIELD CLUB.

XXXV.

DRAINAGE.

THE drainage of Englewood was not neglected, and few people realize that a large sewer, built by the "Citizens' Sewer Company," passes under the avenue. This sewer runs from the Lyceum down the avenue to the canal or creek below Englewood Avenue. It was built many years ago, and has always been maintained by private parties, and the public know very little about it. It was constructed to drain the lands and cellars of business blocks on both sides of the avenue. Before it was built these lands and cellars were constantly flooded.

This sewer has been a great public benefit and ought to be purchased and kept in repair by the city.

XXXVI.

ANTICIPATING WANTS.

THE active mind of the early settler led him to anticipate the wants of an increasing population long before there was a necessity for them. Early in the sixties a meeting was called to establish a bank. Twenty thousand dollars were subscribed when the subject was dropped. The propriety of establishing a paper was discussed when there were but few people here. We were constantly anticipating enterprises that were sure to come, long before they could be supported.

Nearly every one carried a subscription paper for some enterprise, and no one felt offended if appealed to. Lands, houses and lots were purchased, sold and

traded on our trains as readily as boys trade tops and toys. It was stated that one of our enterprising citizens who had an impediment in his speech would often raise the price of land while trying to articulate.

I will name one instance of rapid advance in price of land in these days. A gentleman largely engaged in real estate purchased several acres in the valley for one hundred and fifty dollars per acre, and disposed of it within a week for nine hundred. Purchasers and those who wished to sell were about equally divided and a desire to do one or the other was shared by all.

To show the ups and downs of real estate before and after the panic of 1873 I will refer to two events. A party purchased a piece of land in 1864 on Dean Street for one thousand dollars. In less than a week. he sold it for two thousand. His conscience would give him no

rest until he had searched out the party he purchased from and returned him one-half the profit. The writer sold a lot in inflated times for one thousand dollars, receiving five hundred cash. It was returned for the five hundred due; sold again for five hundred and returned again for two hundred and fifty, which would be a fair price for the lot at the present time.

XXXVII.

“THE CANAL COMPANY.”

A COMPANY was formed in 1868, to build a canal from Palisade Avenue to Nordhoff, the head of tide water. The company fancied they saw in the near future vessels of every description, laden with lumber, coal and merchandise of all kinds, landing at the docks of the “Overpeck Canal Company Limited.” Allin’s mill stood in the way, and there was no law to compel the owner to yield his undisputed right. Thirty thousand dollars were subscribed and twenty thousand expended. The writer has before him the original subscription book, with the list of stockholders and the amounts standing in their name.

The following is a list of stockholders:

William Walter Phelps, Jacob S. Wetmore, David Hoadley, Francis Howland, W. R. Vermilye, George S. Coe, L. Chapman, Jr., T. W. Demarest, N. T. Johnson, H. J. DeMott, Daniel Drake Smith, General T. B. Van Buren, W. A. Booth, John Van Brunt, Cornelius Lydecker, Henry Jones, Patrick O'Tool, J. A. Humphrey. Jacob S. Wetmore was president; I. Smith Homans, Jr., secretary George H. Coffey treasurer.

Of this number there are but six living. The stream was dredged, widened, deepened and straightened. The money expended has been returned to the public in the drainage of the village.

The old mill at Nordhoff has disappeared, but too late for the canal. Annual meetings were held for several years to comply with the law and retain the charter, but the company has passed into the material that dreams are made of and will soon be forgotten.

XXXVIII.

ROADS.

Our roads in 1859 were roads of Jersey mud and sand. To improve their condition a road board was organized to lay out and macadamize new and old streets, lay walks, and improve the thoroughfares generally.

A large amount of money was voted every spring to be expended on roads. The township was divided into road districts, each district electing its own commissioner. A chairman was elected from one of their number to preside over their meetings. We are indebted to these commissioners for the foundation of the roads in Englewood Township.

When the city government entered upon its duties the road board ceased to exist.

XXXIX.

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

A VILLAGE Improvement Society was formed in 1868 to take a general supervision over the village, such as lighting the streets, planting trees and the removal of any unsightly refuse that might accumulate in the highways and uninclosed grounds.

This society accomplished much to improve the general appearance of the village during its existence. It assumed charge of the lighting of streets, to which the citizens contributed a certain amount each year. The society also purchased oil lamps, and attended to lighting and extinguishing the same.

About this time our fences began to

exhibit evidence of decay, and to restore them would be quite an expense. Fortunately the custom of turning villages into parks had become general and the removal of inclosures was very popular, as fences made good kindling wood.

We must not forget to give much credit to the good ladies of our village, as they not only assisted in organizing these reforms but often were instrumental in carrying them out. The Improvement Society and hospital if not inaugurated were greatly helped by them.

XL.

THE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

THE unprotected condition of Englewood and its accessibility to New York attracted professional thieves and house breakers, as they could so easily escape into the forest and down the steep gorges of the Palisades to the Hudson River. A society for mutual protection was formed by an act of the Legislature in 1869, but many houses had been visited when this society was inaugurated. The dwellings of Colonel Vermilye, George S. Coe, and E. W. Andrews were the last entered before the organization of this society. At that time Mr. Andrews had an unpleasant experience. The burglar appeared at his bedside and hurled a

steel jimmy at his head, just missing him. Securing a revolver Mr. Andrews sent a ball after the housebreaker as he retreated down the stairs.

The house of the writer had a mild experience with a burglar, but as he was securely locked in his room and the burglar overturned a chair and retired in haste, upon entering the house, no loss or harm came to the owner. The affair was soon forgotten.

We had many experiences of this kind until an armed society arose and caused men of housebreaking tastes to disappear. We often armed our servants and placed them on guard. The house of William King on Chestnut Street had been entered several times. He made a bed of a lounge in a room just off from the hall on which his man servant slept with pistol in hand. A robber entered. The servant was too much frightened to move. The thief packed up his secu-

rities in a sheet and threw them out of the parlor window. The servant was not tried for murder.

Mr. James McCulloh was the first president of the Protection Society. He was a man fearless of danger and had many personal encounters with men of all grades of thievish propensities. In one of his early experiences he arrested a thief one dark night, tied his hands to the stirrup of his saddle, as he was on horseback and marched him to the "lock-up." At another time he took two thieves to his house, placed them in his parlor, handcuffed them, armed his son and placed him in charge until morning.

Mr. McCulloh's exploits by night and day, in sunshine and fierce storms would fill a large volume.

William Hill was our chief marshal at that time, and as he had the acquaintance of many New York detectives and also on the police force, he was placed in a posi-

tion to be informed in advance of intended visits from law breakers.

I will relate an instance where about thirty State Prison convicts were turned out of Sing Sing by two New York pals, and a number of them fell into the arms of our marshal.

A burglar by the name of Kingsland, sentenced to Sing Sing for several years, was released by his friends in the following manner. Two of them living in New York captured a tug with a pilot on board and at the point of revolvers compelled him to take them to the prison dock at Sing Sing. Kingsland, whose escape had been planned, boarded the boat, and before they could leave the dock twenty-five convicts leaped into the tug, crossed the river and scattered to the woods. Big Kid and Kingsland, after securing a change of clothing, started to New York via Englewood. They appeared at Taylor's livery stable about 6 o'clock p.m.

The marshal was informed that two men looking suspicious were at Taylor's stable with a jaded horse about to start to Fort Lee. Mr. Hill sent to Dr. Banks, a marshal of the society, who joined him and followed the convicts, drove past them near Fort Lee, alighted from their carriage and questioned them. Being satisfied that they were dangerous characters they arrested and returned with them to Englewood. Reports came from New York to hold them. They were locked up, and nine who had escaped with them appeared and were taken that night, and the next morning as they were trying to pass to New York from the Jersey side of the river.

Not caring to wait for extradition papers Mr. Hills and Dr. Banks went to Alpine, crossed the river and landed them in Sing Sing. Big Kid, the bandit of the tugboat, was an escaped convict.

This society became a terror to evil-

doers far away, who notified their friends to keep out of Englewood. It cast a mantle of protection over all its members, which included nearly every family in the town.

It is still in existence, but at no expense to any one at present through the kindness and liberality of its president, Mr. Donald Mackay. The present board of officers are: President, Donald Mackay; vice-president, Clinton H. Blake; secretary, Charles F. Park.

The first board of officers in 1869: President, James W. McCulloh; vice-president, Dr. Hardy M. Banks; treasurer, W. Hart Smith; secretary, Daniel W. Leeds.

Directors, James W. McCulloh, Cornelius Lydecker, Nathan T. Johnson, Lebbens Chapman, Jr., Hardy M. Banks, R. K. Cook, Daniel G. Bogart, W. P. Coe, W. Hart Smith.

The marshal of this society was invested

with power to arrest any one within the limits of the State of New Jersey who shall have violated its laws within the township. This society was very useful and it was conceived and conducted by our best citizens.

It is hard for the residents of the city of Englewood to get a glimpse of the things which were so real to us who were here in the early days of its existence, but now have almost become shadows. I wish I could illuminate this page of history with a light that would show Englewood as it appeared to us in those early years.

XLI.

AN EXCITING INCIDENT.

In the summer of 1862 I took an early morning drive to show the beauties of the Palisades to some friends who were spending a few days with us. We drove up the avenue to the river, then turned north in the direction of Alpine on a road at that time called Hudson Terrace. After driving about a mile we made a sudden turn in the road, nearly running down a suspicious-looking character with a large well-filled carpetbag in his hand. He passed in front of us like the wind, and disappeared down a thickly wooded gorge that led to the river among the bushes.

He appeared and disappeared so sud-

denly that he seemed like a materialized shadow. His satchel dropped from his hand, and its gaping mouth showed conclusively that its contents came from some burglarized dwelling in the valley.

We were very much surprised, and did not stop to investigate the contents of the bag, but drove rapidly on until we thought it safe to return.

We retraced our steps back to the gorge, but the burglar and bag had disappeared, and all was quiet. After watching a short time we observed a boat pulling from the shore at the bottom of the ravine, with two men in charge, and move rapidly to the middle of the river.

It was reported that a house had been entered in the village the previous night.

XLII.

THE OLD RAVINE.

FOR several years after the village was settled Palisade Avenue was divided by a beautiful wild ravine. It was a picturesque, romantic spot that remains a pretty picture in the memory of those who lived here at the time. It was directly opposite the Presbyterian Church, and was quite deep. A running stream entered it from the church grounds and after passing merrily through it disappeared under the avenue.

This stream reappears in view in Dr. Currie's grounds at the present time. The ravine was filled with chestnut trees, shrubs and wild flowers. This romantic

spot had its day and remains a pleasant recollection. But its interment seemed like the burial of an old friend to many, but sentiment had to give way.

Many of our best citizens visited that spot as it was being obliterated and turned away with sadness. One of our best and most esteemed citizens was so grieved over it that he actually left Englewood for a month to forget its destruction.

One of our most esteemed ladies declared that she would leave Englewood and never return.

XLIII.

THE LITTLE PARK NEAR THE DEPOT.

A WELL remembered spot was a small park-like inclosure in the center of the avenue opposite the present post office. It was filled with shade trees and surrounded by a railing where people could lounge, talk politics and fasten their horses while waiting for trains.

As the little frame depot was about the only building near it for some time it was like a small park in an old New England village, where people assembled from miles around the country to see friends off on the train or wait for their return. It was a pleasant meeting place, especially in summer, as it was delightfully shaded with elms and maples. At

that time this little park-like grove so near the depot was appreciated, as there were no trees bordering the streets or avenues. Many of our enterprising citizens while building new homes in the village were camping in hired farmhouses some distance out of the center of the village and drove to and from the trains, and this little park was a picnic ground, where people met their friends and neighbors.

Buildings began to arise around the park. The shadow of a city was appearing and the subject of removal began to be discussed. From that time its doom was sealed. It had many friends who were very much opposed to its destruction, but a majority ruled and this pleasing picture was removed from the map of our village.

XLIV.

“THE OLD SAWMILL.”

It was but a few years ago that an old sawmill, with its race of rapid running waters, occupied a beautiful site, lying among the shadows of overhanging trees, directly opposite the Brookside Cemetery, west of Engle Street. Its waters were supplied by two little laughing streams, whose eddies and dimples reflected back the foliage that hung over their borders. These streams unite, after passing under two stone bridges on Engle Street. Many of us will remember this old mill, as it was in full operation long after the birth of Englewood, but was finally abandoned.

The dam was removed, its pent-up waters allowed to depart, and the old

wheel has made its last revolution. This old mill after standing deserted and alone a few years was removed by the lighted torch of some bad boy or careless tramp. When I think of these old relics of the past I am reminded of the time when every village and hamlet supplied the people with mill products from the local "mill," and as a rule a distillery was supplied by the same pure water, and the farmer furnished the material. The miller received his pay or "toll" in grain.

Do you remember the old mill,
From the bridge we used to hear
Waters that were never still,
Whose gentle murmur pleased the ear.

The wheel has ceased its merry round,
The mill has fallen to decay,
From the dam no pleasing sound
Longer rises with the spray.

The stream has found its native bed,
A solemn stillness all around,
The birds are silent overhead,
On either hand a burying ground.



OLD MILL, ENGLE STREET.

XLV.

AN OLD ICE POND.

It is not generally known that the old ice houses that stood on the corner of Demorest Avenue and the railroad so many years after Englewood was settled were used for a year or two after we came as a gristmill, when the houses were transferred into ice houses for storing the ice that was taken from the pond. Our summer drinks were cooled with ice from that small body of water several years.

Finally public opinion and the press found a cause for its removal. This pond was supplied by two little streams that came down from the mountains, passed around and nearly encircled a

beautiful wooded knoll. After passing under two stone bridges they united and danced in company down the valley as they had for centuries, all unconscious of the danger that was lurking in their smile.

This shady and retired spot around which these streams found their way was selected by the people of Englewood for a cemetery. It was soon whispered about that the two little streams that united their melody might be made impure by their association with the Brookside cemetery. Ideas and emotions acquire contagious force by a whisper, and a hint from the press was sufficient to start a sentimental panic. From that time the ice pond was doomed. The dam was removed and the waters reduced to a small stream. It was an unsightly object until vegetation had clothed its muddy bottom and the sun had drawn its malarial fangs. Soon

after this a flash of light revealed the flames that destroyed the old ice houses. Public sentiment was satisfied, but an individual suffered loss.

The fateful hand of time has swept away all these ancient landmarks, forty years have come and gone, like breakers on the shores of time. Englewood has had its summer skies and winter storms, but Time's withering hand has only removed useless relics, new and more beautiful buildings arise, and nature remains with her everlasting vitality.

XLVI.

THE PRESS.

UNTIL 1861 all attempts to establish a paper in Hackensack township had been a failure. The *Bergen County Journal*, a union paper, made an unsuccessful effort to succeed, but went down in 1861.

In the fall of that year Mr. Eben Winton joined Mr. C. C. Burr and issued the *Bergen County Democrat*. In March, 1862, Mr. Winton purchased the interest of Mr. Burr, and the paper became a success. In 1874 Mr. Eben Winton founded the *Englewood Times*, and published it as a non-partisan paper. Mr. Winton became very popular with all parties, and this paper was well received.

In 1879 a new "Richmond" entered the field and came to stay. Mr. Joseph H. Tillotson, a man of energy and perseverance, established the *Standard*, and managed it with such ability that Mr. Winton was glad to transfer the *Englewood Times* to his ownership in 1884. The two journals were then united under the title of *Standard and Times*. In 1886 the name of *Standard* was dropped and the paper assumed the name of *Englewood Times*.

March 29, 1890, Mr. Tillotson disposed of the *Times* and established the *Englewood Press*, which has met with far greater success than any of its predecessors. Mr. Tillotson is a courteous and affable man, who is always willing to give and receive information; attends strictly to his business, has the confidence and good will of the citizens of this town and has from the beginning met with uninterrupted success.

The Englewood *Times* was first issued in 1874 by Mr. Eben Winton as a non-partisan paper. It met with immediate success, which has continued until this day. In 1879 Mr. J. H. Tillotson bought out Mr. Winton. In the spring of 1890 he sold the *Times* to Mr. H. M. Litchtenberg, who issued it a few years, when he disposed of it to Mr. W. H. Eicks in 1893. Mr. Eicks sold it to John P. Stockton, who disposed of it to the Times Publishing Company in 1895. The *Times* is a very enterprising and well-conducted paper at the present time.

XLVII.

ENGLEWOOD SEWER COMPANY.

THE Englewood Sewer Company was organized in 1887. This company has always been under good management and was a welcome sanitary relief. There is no doubt but what water and sewerage has been the means of bringing to this village a large increase of population. The first officers were: Directors, J. S. Wetmore, Dr. D. A. Currie, Samuel F. Gold, Oliver Drake Smith, R. H. Rochester, George W. Betts, R. P. Wurtendyke; Oliver Drake Smith, secretary and treasurer; Samuel F. Gold, superintendent.

XLVIII.

A SWISS MOUNTAIN ROAD.

AN enterprise that cost a large amount of money flourished for awhile and then expired was the "Palisades Road and Turnpike Company."

It was a stock company and the road was built to accommodate the patrons of the "Mountain House," a large summer hotel on the brow of the Palisades, also to turn travel from the valley to the Hudson River. This road was built after the manner of zigzag roads in Switzerland, and was well patronized for some time.

It was a toll-gate road, and a stage ran from the hotel to the river, also from the village of Englewood. A fine dock was

built, where two boats called daily for passengers.

A footpath was made to accommodate those who desired to climb. After paying a few assessments the stockholders abandoned the road. The boats ceased running, and traveling in that direction became a thing of the past. It was also found to be more business than pleasure. Before the Mountain House was destroyed a company was formed with sufficient capital to build a steam elevator to take passengers by more rapid means than by the Swiss road. This means of conveyance never matured, as the destruction of the hotel checked travel in that direction. This was the last effort to colonize the top of the Palisades.

The Mountain House, which was so important to the Swiss road, to the docks, and also to the building-up of that neighborhood, was built in the spring of 1860.

It was a very imposing structure, and could be seen a long distance up and down the river. It accommodated a large number of summer boarders, and was crowded every season for several years. Mr. Hammond, of the Murray Hill and Plaza Hotels, New York City, leased it. It was consumed by fire several years ago and never rebuilt.

This fine hotel was owned by William O. Allison, who built a magnificent stone mansion on the brow of the mountain near the ruins of the hotel, where he resides. Mr. Allison was born under the shadow of the Palisades, near where he now resides, but by his own exertion and ability has risen to wealth and position. He has climbed from the foot to the top of the mountain.

XLIX.

NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY BRIDGE
COMPANY.

VERY few of our citizens know that the charter for a bridge across the Hudson River originated in Englewood, and was obtained over thirty years ago. Two bills were presented to the Legislature of New Jersey at the same time, one from Hudson County and one from Bergen. A fierce contest took place between the two interests. The Bergen County bill was, by a fine piece of strategy, successful. This bill was introduced by Cornelius Lydecker, Nathan T. Johnson, and others. Mr. Culver had charge of the unsuccessful bill. Mr. Culver, being anxious for an interest in the charter,

purchased in the interest of several of the incorporators of the Bergen County bill. Messrs. George S. Coe, J. Wyman Jones, Cornelius Lydecker and others were incorporators. That charter was revived nearly thirty years after this period. Mr. Culver, who is interested in the present Hudson River bridge charter, purchased his interest in said charter from residents of this town about 1868.

L.

CELEBRATING THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT
GRANT IN 1868.

THE election of General Grant as President of the United States in the fall of 1868 was an occasion of a great public demonstration by the citizens of Englewood to show their patriotic regard for the great captain who had restored the Union to peace and happiness.

A grand procession was inaugurated by the citizens of Englewood to celebrate the occasion. Houses were illuminated and decorated with the national colors, and such patriotic enthusiasm has never been exhibited in this village since.

Colonel Henry W. Banks was grand marshal, and Lebbius Chapman, Jr., chief of staff.

The order of procession will interest our citizens. It was as follows:

1. Grand marshal and staff.
2. Seventh Regiment band.
3. Citizens on foot.
4. Orators of the day in carriages.
5. Citizens of Englewood mounted.
6. Organization from Hackensack.
7. Organization from Paramus.
8. Organization from Paterson.
9. Other organizations.
10. Citizens of Englewood in carriages.

LINE OF MARCH.

First—The line will be formed on Palisade Avenue, right resting on the railroad.

Second—Chief of organizations intending to take part will report to the grand marshal or chief of staff at De Mott's store.

Third—The column will move as soon

after the arrival of the 2:30 train as the grand marshal shall deem proper.

Fourth—The line of march will be through Palisade Avenue, Lydecker, Chestnut, Engle Street and Humphrey Street, to the ball ground.

Fifth—The following are aids to the grand marshal, and will be respected accordingly by Lebbius Chapman, chief of staff: George S. Coe, Tappan Hoadley, C. H. Tomes, T. S. Taylor, J. A. Humphrey.

Sixth—The staff will report mounted to the grand marshal at De Mott's store promptly at 12:30 P.M.

HENRY W. BANKS, Grand Marshal.

LEBBIUS CHAPMAN, Chief of Staff.

I have quoted the above, and hand it down as a legacy from the fathers of Englewood to their children. Of the six staff officers but one is living.

II.

A SURRENDER TO OUR FLAG.

I WILL relate a single incident that took place at the Englewood House in the summer of 1865. Two young gentlemen, formerly from the South, were spending the summer at this house. The windows and doors were draped with the American flag on the day when the great procession welcomed the return of our soldiers.

Our Southern friends refused to make their egress or exit under the American flags that draped the doors and windows. A committee of gentlemen was appointed to wait upon them, and demand that they decorate themselves with the Stars and Stripes, and walk under the American



REV. HENRY M. BOOTH, D. D.

flag or pack their trunks and take their departure from town at once. As they desired to remain in Englewood they complied with the request, joined the others in the celebration and exhibited no more evidence of disloyalty.

LII.

A REVIVAL OF BUSINESS.

For several years after the close of the war Englewood improved rapidly. Houses went up in great numbers, and money was plenty. The Atheneum, a large public building with a public hall, shops and offices, was built in 1868. This building stood on the corner of the Avenue and Engle Street. It was burned several years ago. The post office and several stores occupied the first story. It was completed in 1870. The rapidity with which the stock was taken showed the public spirit and liberality of the people at this period. Thirty-five thousand dollars was the amount originally

subscribed, but the plans and specifications called for seventy thousand.

A meeting to consider the subject was held in the parlors of the Englewood House. At this meeting it was resolved to raise forty-five thousand dollars in cash and place a mortgage on the building for the balance. A committee was appointed with power to go on and erect the building without delay. At its completion a mortgage was placed on the property of eighteen thousand dollars.

The loan was obtained from the Mutual Life Insurance Company. A second mortgage was afterward placed for a small amount.

When this was completed the "hall" was opened with the greatest number of people that ever assembled within its walls on a similar occasion. Clara Louise Kellogg was to appear in concert. The seats were all sold, and standing room was at a premium.

This building flourished until the panic of 1873, when the stock fell from fifty to nothing. One gentleman purchased nearly all of the stock. Two of the three gentlemen who were bondsmen on the first mortgage had died, and the third one paid the Mutual Life, who loaned the money. The building was burned soon after, and the insurance realized very little more than enough to satisfy the bondsman who paid off the first mortgage. This building never was a success. Its architectural construction was bad, and it never was safe, as it was a frame building. In the event of fire during a performance exit would be very difficult, and might have caused a panic. Its destruction by conflagration was not regretted.

LIII.

A NEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

IN June, 1867, a committee was appointed to consider the subject of building a new church. This committee consisted of Messrs. J. Wyman Jones, Livingston K. Miller, L. Chapman, Jr., William Walter Phelps, and Nathan T. Johnson. The committee presented a report stating the amount raised as nearly twenty-five thousand dollars. Plans for a stone edifice were presented at the same time. A building committee was appointed consisting of J. Wyman Jones, George S. Coe, James Vanderbeek, Washington R. Vermilye, and J. A. Humphrey.

Mr. Livingston K. Miller was made treasurer. On the 17th of April, 1870, the congregation worshipped for the first time. The entire cost of the church was about fifty thousand dollars. David Hoadley presented the church with an organ costing about thirty-five hundred dollars.

At the completion of the church a debt of fifteen thousand dollars remained. Colonel Vermilye was very anxious that the church should be free from debt and offered to contribute five thousand dollars if the church would raise the balance. This offer was increased to ten thousand dollars, when the balance was raised and the church, one of the finest in New Jersey, has always been free from debt.

After the death of Colonel Vermilye his only daughter, Mrs. E. A. Brinkerhoff, erected a beautiful memorial chapel in his memory. She furnished it com-

pletely and has always kept it in perfect repair. The officers of this church at this time were:

Elders, Livingston K. Miller, Frank B. Nichols, James Vanderbeek; deacons, John J. De Mott, Bryon Murray, Jr., Jeffrey A. Humphrey; trustees, Lebbeus Chapman, Jr., James O. Morse, Charles H. Waterbury; treasurer, Bryon Murray, Jr.

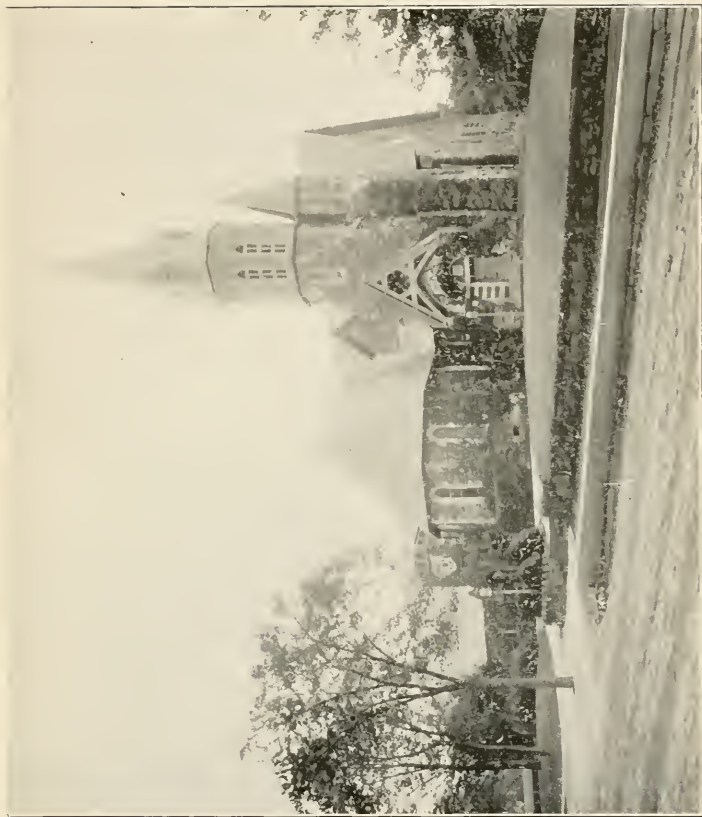
It may interest the public to know what this church was contributing for charitable and other purposes during the first twenty-five years of its existence. The total amount of receipts for all purposes were three hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars or nearly fifteen thousand for each year.

An exhibit of a few years separately will be interesting: 1861 receipts were \$3,179; 1865, \$2,571; 1870, \$10,234; 1871, \$26,000; 1875, \$15,000; 1880, \$14,000; 1885, \$13,000.

This is a good showing when we consider that the twenty-five years include many early years when there were but few inhabitants.

On the 18th of March, 1891, a call was extended to the Rev. James Eells which was accepted, and on the 24th day of September he was installed as minister. Mr. Eells occupied the pulpit until the spring of 1898, when he resigned to accept a call from a church in Boston.

The church was without a pastor until March, 1899, when Dr. Samuel M. Hamilton of Louisville, Kentucky, received and accepted a call, and now occupies the pulpit of this church.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

LIV.

A METHODIST CHURCH.

THE Methodist Church was dedicated in December, 1863. The Rev. E. Hewett was installed its first pastor the following January, who has been succeeded by many successful preachers. The Rev. Dr. Wise became a resident here December, 1863, and through his efforts services were held. Dr. Wise was a great acquisition to the town, as he was a very eloquent, scholarly and earnest preacher; moreover he was a brilliant writer, his literary talents being of a high order.

Moses E. Springer was one of the principle organizers of the church, and has always taken a deep interest in its affairs. Mr. Springer was one of Englewood's

early citizens. He has built several houses and filled many important offices of public trust. R. A. Gorham, an old and esteemed resident, has always been active in the Methodist Church, and is one of its earnest workers.

The Rev. J. W. Dalley is its present pastor, and is a very active and earnest preacher, and very much esteemed by his people. An extended residence here would be gratifying not only to his people, but to citizens of the town.

LV

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE Catholic Church was built in 1866. Until that date we were obliged to send our help to Fort Lee in our own carriages in order to retain them in our employ; that was the nearest church of that denomination. Many people of that church walked back and forth—a distance of two and one-half miles each way. Our citizens were willing contributors to a fund to build a Catholic Church as to send to Fort Lee every Sabbath was very inconvenient. This church building was very much enlarged in 1868.

The church has a very large membership, and has had many acceptable pas-

tors connected with it, and under its charge is a parochial school, and many societies that bring together and elevate their people. Father Smith was its first pastor. He spent several years here, and was much beloved.

LVI.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THE Episcopal Church was built and the church organized in 1865. The money was quickly subscribed to complete the edifice. Every public spirited citizen in Englewood took an interest in its construction as they had in everything that contributed to the growth of the town. The Rev. O. W. Whittaker (now bishop) was its first pastor. He was a very successful preacher, and his people parted from him with regret. He became the friend of all denominations, who esteemed him highly. He was followed by the Rev. W. S. Langford, the Rev. John W. Paine and others.

The first wardens were: E. W. Andrews, Charles T. Chester, William King, John H. Lyell, Herbert Turner, Richard K. Cook. This church has had a steady growth from the beginning, and its members are very much devoted not only to the church but to each other.

Having outgrown the present church building a new and larger one is about to be erected for its worshippers. The present minister, the Rev. G. F. Flichtner, is very highly esteemed, and is a very popular and successful rector.

LVII.

A PICNIC ON THE PALISADES.

EXPERIENCE has taught visitors to the rocky heights of the Palisades to approach the dangerous steeps with caution. Before the lesson was learned many serious accidents had occurred. Anderson's terrible fall from the top of the Palisades a few years ago will long be remembered by all living in Englewood at the time it happened. A company of young ladies and gentlemen had gathered near a gorge on the mountain to enjoy a summer afternoon in this shady spot. While in the full enjoyment of the occasion, young Anderson, in moving around, stepped on some running vines that carpeted the top of a gorge, think-

ing he was on solid ground, and fell two hundred and fifty feet. It was considered miraculous that he could take such a plunge without being dashed to pieces. In an instant the young man was seen falling with lightning speed down the steep sides of the rocks. After falling fifty feet he struck a small tree among the bushes, where he was held a moment, and then plunged two hundred feet farther down.

It was nearly an hour before he was rescued.

Imagination can hardly picture the difficulty in reaching him, and returning to the residence of Mr. George S. Coe on the top of the mountain, Dr. Currie was immediately sent for, and attended him until he recovered. One of the young ladies present had just previous to the accident remarked that there were thirteen present, and they must be careful. This remark led them to repeat the

superstitious legend that the number thirteen always calls out. A second accident happened at the same time. A horse that had been tied to a tree, with the wheels of the carriage near the brink, broke his fastenings and backed over the precipice. An eyewitness said when he crept near the gorge and looked over that he saw flashes of light fly from the rocks far down, and the horse passed to the river five hundred feet below. Eight years previous to this time a young woman fell from the same point that Anderson did, and was instantly killed. Many years have passed since an accident has happened, showing that this sad lesson has not been forgotten.

LVIII.

SPECULATING BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THE
TOWN.

FROM 1868 to 1873 some of our most enterprising citizens having outgrown speculating in village lots, reached out far beyond the limits of the town, purchased many farms, and founded many villages, such as Creskill, Norwood, Sparkill, and so forth. Seven farms were purchased near Blauveltville on the branch road which runs from Sparkill to Nanuett.

A new town was to be founded, and a station erected on the line of this road. The farmers retired to live on the interest of their mortgages, leaving their land to run to weeds and thistles, their buildings to decay, and their fences to ruin.

Several visits were made with the president of the road to locate a new station, but nothing came of it. Speculation had reached its limit. The panic of 1873 cast a dark shadow over the country and the first lesson in suburban village history was ended.

These abandoned farms with fences and buildings going to decay were overgrown with weeds and underbrush.

Rather than go to the expense of foreclosure the poor farmer took back his farm for the mortgage, returned to it, and began life anew.

Thousands of acres of land in Bergen County were returned to their original owners.

The Mansard roof broke out in architecture about 1868.

Its craze appeared all over the State, but with the fall of Napoleon that style of architecture disappeared. Wherever you see a Mansard roof you can know to a certainty that it was built about 1870.

LVIV.

THE PANIC OF 1873.

THE cyclone that struck real estate in 1873 could not have been foreseen by any financial weather prophet. It called for a settlement of accounts of nearly all speculators in village lots or outlying lands.

It was eight or ten years before a revival came. In the meantime the grave of financial ruin had overtaken a great many. Very few houses were erected, or lots sold, for several years. In the interval the world was not idle. The student in mechanics, architecture, and all other sciences was hard at work, and when business revived a new order of things took place.

Architecture became a thing of beauty, as well as comfort.

LX.

THE TABLES TURNED.

A CHANGE of fortune in which an Englewood gentleman was interested, proves the uncertainty of worldly affairs.

A gentleman purchased a large tract of land near Closter, agreeing to pay two hundred and seventy-five dollars per acre. Real estate at that time was booming. The gentleman that made the sale discovered that he had sold too cheap, and refused to deliver a deed. A lawsuit was the result. The court ordered him to complete the sale. The panic came and the land became almost worthless. The law compelled the seller to make his fortune, while the one who

succeeded in the law was ruined. This was nearly twenty-five years ago, and the land remains in the hands of the purchaser.

LXI.

THE PALISADES LAND COMPANY.

A MINE of stranded hopes lie buried in the dark shadows of the Palisades on the mountains near Closter. A land company was formed by Englewood gentlemen, who sold its shares for thirteen thousand dollars each. Many men of wealth became interested, expecting to see a large and prosperous city planted there. The panic came, followed a few years later by a return to specie. The land company dissolved. Each shareholder took a deed for his special share, or shares, and it is very doubtful whether any one of them could locate his land should he attempt it. Many who were interested have long since passed away.

James G. Blaine and Whitelaw Reid were interested.

For the purpose of introducing this enterprise beyond the boundaries of the county, invitations were sent far and near for a forest picnic to be held on these lands.

It was a beautiful autumn day. The location was charming for a gathering of that kind. A large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled to enjoy the occasion. There were many inducements to inspire one to purchase an interest in these lots. The Honorable S. B. Chittenden was present. He was a member of Congress at the time. Many other distinguished persons were in evidence. The views and refreshments were much enjoyed, but as an effort to unload real estate it was not a success. These lands remain in their primitive state. Were a tribe of Indians to locate here I doubt whether they would be disturbed.

LXII.

SPECULATION IN OIL.

THE "New Jersey Oil Company" was a child of Englewood. Lands were purchased in Ohio and Pennsylvania, and stock issued. Messrs. Nathan T. Johnson, Cornelius Lydecker, Francis Howland, I. Smith Homans, and many others were officers of the company.

The writer received stock to the amount of five thousand dollars with a guarantee. This stock was returned, and money refunded within twelve months and has always been worthless.

There was nothing strange about this speculation. The oil fever had just broken out, and many fortunes were

made and lost. A large number of wise and conservative men became interested.

The girl whose "dad struck ile" flourished in silks and satins about this period.

LXIII.

PURCHASING A GAS MACHINE.

IN 1868 we began to consider the subject of illuminating our houses with gas or something more convenient than oil. As there was no immediate prospect of gas, Mr. E. S. Monroe and the writer had their attention called to the Springfield gas machine.

This was the best machine in use, so far as we could learn.

We purchased two machines at a cost of six hundred dollars each. They were lowered into large cisterns near our houses. Before we learned to manage these machines two lives came near being sacrificed. A son of Mr. Monroe was found unconscious in the vault that con-

tained his machine, and a servant had the same experience in mine.

Our experience with these machines never proved satisfactory. Within a year our Englewood Gas Company was organized, when I sold my patent illuminating machine at a sacrifice.

LXIV.

THE BERGEN COUNTY GAS COMPANY.

GAS was introduced into this town in 1869. It was a fortunate period for the company, as times were prosperous and nearly every one received it into their dwellings. It came high—three dollars and fifty cents per thousand feet—but money was plenty and no complaint was raised.

The charter for this company was obtained by James O. Morse, Daniel Drake Smith, Colonel H. W. Banks, and several others. Gas bills of thirty and forty dollars were not uncommon, and coal in 1869 was fifteen dollars per ton.

After thirty years of success this company recently sold its stock to a foreign

company. Mr. S. F. Gold was superintendent and manager. Mr. Gold has always been a faithful and competent manager of the many different companies he has represented.

The first officers of the Gas Company were as follows:

Treasurer, William King; superintendent, Samuel F. Gold; directors, Daniel Drake Smith, James O. Morse, Ashbel Green, Lebbeus Chapman, Jr., Livingston K. Miller.

Directors and officers just retired: Colonel H. W. Banks, J. Hugh Peters, Charles H. Platt, Sheffield Phelps, B. Drake Smith, E. A. Brinkerhoff, O. Drake Smith, Samuel F. Gold, J. Hall Browning; secretary and treasurer, B. Drake Smith; superintendent, Samuel F. Gold.

LXV.

WATER INTRODUCED.

WATER was introduced into Englewood in 1886 by the Hackensack Water Company. This company has its offices in Hoboken, and the water comes from New Milford. The supply has always been abundant and satisfactory, and it was very fortunate for the town that the Hackensack Water Company found it convenient to pass our doors. This will be appreciated more by those who for years were compelled to pump their water from wells and cisterns that often ran dry than by those that never experienced that labor.

LXVI.

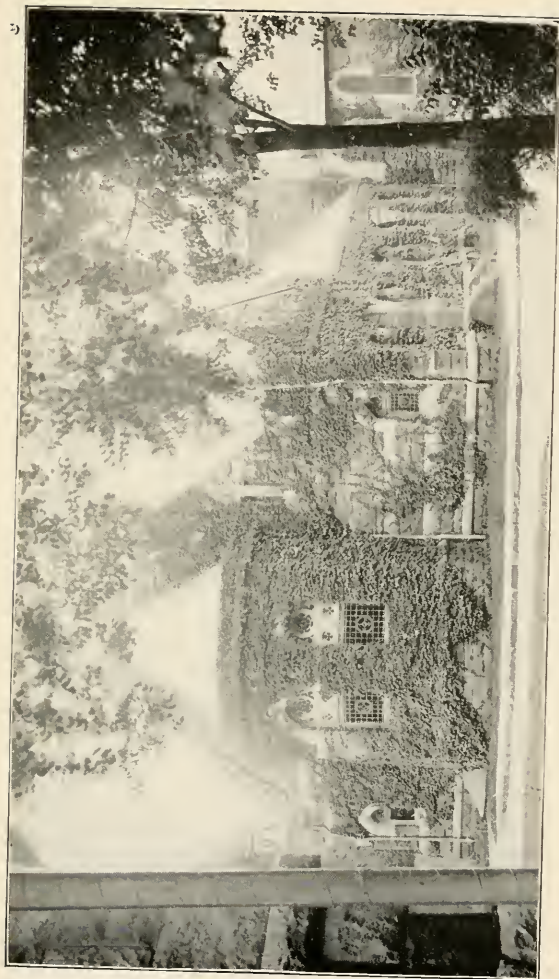
BROOKSIDE CEMETERY.

ENGLEWOOD had been enrolled among the villages of New Jersey sixteen years before the citizens felt a necessity for a place of burial, which is conclusive proof that this was a healthy place.

The subject was long discussed before a site was chosen.

A committee of twenty-one was appointed to purchase a piece of land suitable for the purpose. After a thorough investigation and search over the township the committee decided upon the location of the present "Brookside Cemetery."

As is often the case in public affairs there was strong opposition to this site.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL.

The columns of the press were open for discussion.

Although situated on high rolling ground far above two streams that surrounded it, some thought it damp and undesirable; but time has proved the wisdom of the choice and its purchase has never been regretted.

The cemetery was purchased in 1876, when it was a wild, barren spot filled with chestnut, dogwood, and wild cedars. It is surrounded with streams and swaying treetops with bright sunlight playing among the branches.

Over thirty years have passed, and we find within these forest walks a city of tombs, beneath which repose the remains of a generation of Englewood's pioneers.

The remains of Rev. James H. Dwight sleep under the shadow of the little stone chapel in which he preached so many years. What more appropriate and fitting monument to the first pastor of an

Englewood church and what a strange chain of circumstance that their last resting-place should be side by side in that cemetery.

It became necessary some time ago to enlarge the grounds. As it was not possible to purchase land adjoining the old one the trustees obtained nineteen acres on the west side of Engle Street, running to the Northern Railroad, and bounded by the hospital land on the south. These grounds have been surveyed, mapped and are now a part of the old cemetery.

The first officers of the old cemetery in 1876 were: Trustees, Sheppard Homans, Charles G. Sawtelle, Robert J. Hunter, Francis Howland, Thomas M. Wheeler, Jeffrey A. Humphrey; president, Francis Howland; vice-president, Sheppard Homans; treasurer, Jeffrey A. Humphrey.

LXVII.

AN AUCTION SALE.

AN auction sale of property, and the motive that prompted it is an interesting piece of history, as showing the kind and neighborly spirit that existed here twenty-five years ago.

In 1868 Francis Howland sold to Judge Cowan of Washington, D. C., his residence on Church Street, which included about thirty-three acres of land. This land was located east of Engle Street, and occupied nearly a block, running from Chestnut Street, south to Spring Lane. Judge Cowan died in the spring of 1873, leaving his property incumbered for forty thousand dollars, more than it was supposed to be worth. Out of kind-

ness to Mrs. Cowan the citizens had the land surveyed, lots laid out, and a map filed in the county clerk's office at Hackensack. Winthrop Street was opened at that time from Chestnut to Church.

The auction took place on a beautiful autumn day, when nearly every citizen of the village took a holiday to attend it. They had an unselfish desire to obtain from the property the most possible, as they wished to realize something more than the incumbrance. It was a day of hilarity and pleasure, as the purchasers who were mostly our own neighbors, bid the lots up on each other, retiring to cover, when it was thought dangerous to proceed further.

Robert J. Hunter purchased the house and several acres bounded by Winthrop and Church streets. Daniel Drake Smith, Vincent Tilyou, E. S. Monroe, J. Wyman Jones, J. A. Humphrey and several others made purchases.

George S. Coe was made treasurer.

When the sale was completed and the purchase money all paid in the result was seventy-one thousand dollars.

This sale gave to Mrs. Cowan thirty thousand dollars in excess of the indebtedness which enabled her to spend the rest of her days in comfort.

A little before this sale was made J. Wyman Jones sold a few lots at auction in the business center of Palisade Avenue. They brought from four to six hundred dollars, which was thought to be a fair price. These lots were sold a few years later for twenty-five hundred dollars each.

Mr. Jones founded Norwood and built the Norwood House. About this period speculation was extending up the valley, and the building of Norwood was thought to be a wise undertaking. Mr. Jones gave a splendid dinner to his Englewood friends when the hotel was

completed. This town continued to prosper until the house was destroyed by fire.

This building was not restored, and Norwood has never recovered from its loss.

LXVIII.

A CONTEST WITH A BURGLAR.

ON a dark and stormy night in the spring of 1886 two brothers who had been spending an evening with friends at a neighboring house on Teaneck ridge were returning home about 10 o'clock. This was a location of scattered farmhouses surrounded by forests and fields, a lonely walk especially in a fearful storm. In returning home they were compelled to pass a schoolhouse which stood opposite a dark forest some distance from their home. As this school building was in their district anything unusual occurring within its doors at that hour would naturally arouse their suspicion. As they approached the building a flash of

light caused by a match appeared from one of the windows. "What is that!" said one of the brothers. "There must be some intruder inside." The darkness and surrounding gloom made it a moment requiring courage to enter that building unarmed. This being a family not born to fear, the brothers boldly approached the door and cautiously started to enter. In an instant the flash of a pistol rang through the room and its murderous contents struck the door, falling at their feet. "They are firing bullets," remarked one. Upon continuing to enter another shot was fired, but without effect, when the young men withdrew. Not the least unnerved by these demonstrations these two fine types of American manhood, above the average in courage and strength, were alert to meet their foe without stopping to consider the issue, and they took positions on each side of the building under its windows.

They had not long to wait, as the burglar sprang to the window sill, defended by the elder brother, who attacked him with a cane, when the desperado fired, the ball striking and breaking his shoulder blade. He then sprang from the window, when a tug of war never anticipated before commenced. After a fearful struggle the elder brother, although suffering from a broken shoulder blade, succeeded in landing on top. At this time his brother appeared and commenced to beat the robber over the head with a jimmy dropped by the rascal, which he used with effect. It was an unfortunate circumstance that directed the robber's hand to the pistol that he dropped in the struggle. Recovering it, he fired, the ball passing through the young man's body, who, finding his strength failing, started for home. After going about one hundred yards he called for help, when

he was assisted home by his brother and friends. The would-be murderer had been beaten into insensibility, but recovered sufficient to seek the seclusion of a dark forest. George S. Coe, Jr., for that was the wounded brother's name, by his athletic training and previous correct life had sufficient reserve force to sustain and bring him back to health after long and weary months of painful and patient struggle. Word had been conveyed to the Protection Society that George S. Coe, Jr., had been dangerously wounded by a burglar, when over two hundred people with lanterns and weapons appeared on the scene and spent the night in a vain search for the burglar. A reward of two thousand dollars was offered by the society for his apprehension. After wandering several days in the dark recesses of the Palisades he appeared at the Hoboken ferry in an attempt to reach New York, but a police-

man, seeing in that ragged and tattered form the man he was looking for, arrested and returned him to the Protection Society. After a long trial he was sentenced to fifteen years in state prison. The courage displayed by these two brothers, Messrs. George S. and Louis S. Coe, is hardly excelled in the annals of history.

The Protection Society is entitled to great credit for the part taken by them in the arrest, trial, and conviction of this daring criminal.

The law has been satisfied as the burglar has served his term and is now at liberty. It is reported that Mrs. Ballington Booth took an interest in him while in prison, and that after serving out his term he joined her army, and is with them at the present time.

LXIX.

OUR OLDEST MASTER BUILDERS.

ANDREW D. BOGART and Henry Jones have long occupied a conspicuous place in Englewood history, not only as master builders who have constructed the greatest number of our houses and other buildings, but as citizens and neighbors who have long been identified as sharing the burdens and responsibilities of the church and the government of the town.

They have lived here nearly forty years, and the finest buildings presented to our view are of their construction.

I refer to them as they are very old residents and are the most conspicuous in our history as builders.

LXX.

AN EX-TAMMANY SHERIFF

resided in this town at one time in its early history. Ex-Sheriff Orser lived for some years on Teaneck, in an old colonial house situated a little south of Englewood Avenue. He devoted his declining years to riding to and from this village, working on his grounds, and rehearsing the sins of Tammany Hall. He had peculiar ideas about some things, among others was that he was opposed to capital punishment for females, because his mother was a woman. This was said in referring to Mrs. Surrat, an accomplice of J. Wilkes Booth, the murderer of President Lincoln.

LXXI.

A CHAPTER ON TAXES.

THE subject of taxation is ever present, and from it there is no escape. The taxes on property in this township were very light for many years after we came here, even when we consider that the old township of Hackensack, which was three times as large, included Englewood in its boundary. As the village began public improvements taxes rapidly increased. Valuations increased by capital being invested in buildings and lands, but never seemed to keep pace with the increasing expenses of the township. The bills for taxes in 1870, 1880, 1888, 1894 and 1897 on a piece of property I own will

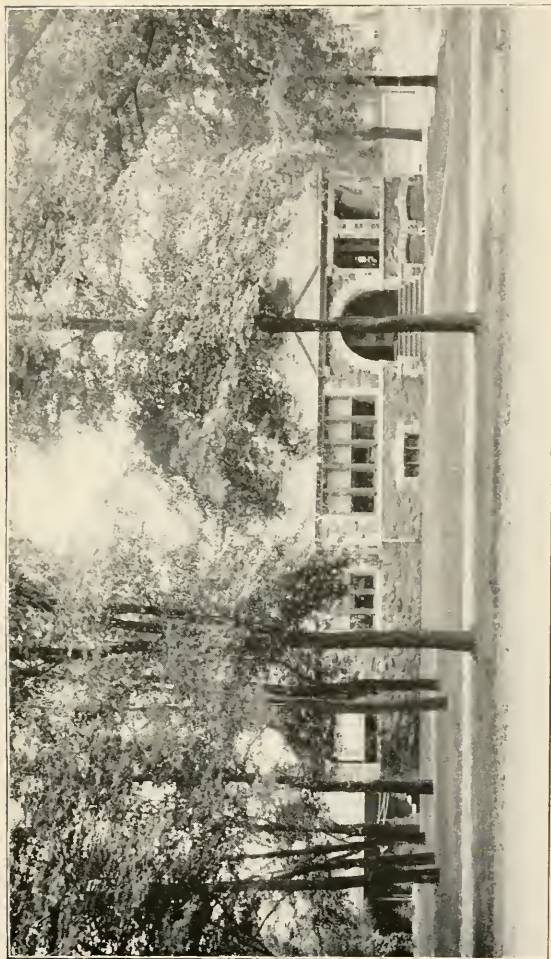
show the increase for those years \$49, \$60, \$90, \$125, \$150. We escape many annoying taxes of our ancestors, and in comparison ought not to complain. Tradition states that our forefathers were obliged to submit to personal taxes which extended to females. In 1695 females paid the collector a personal tax of two shillings a head, that is, those who earned a livelihood, and males twice the amount; in case of old men and minors, they were often remitted.

The first assessor of this township was Daniel G. Boast; collector, Cornelius Herring.

LXXII.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

IN Englewood's early days there was but one Prohibitionist in the town, that was a Mr. Coxhead, who comprised the entire society and elected himself to all its offices. He came from Fort Lee to vote that ticket. Shortly after this the I. O. G. T. Society was organized, when Mr. Coxhead joined them. Their numbers soon increased until they became quite influential. Their efforts restored to respectable citizenship many confirmed and excessive drinkers. They accomplished much as a temperance party, but they entered the arena of politics and died from its excessive indulgence. They demanded that a good templar should vote the prohibition ticket. This demand retired the party.



THE PRESBYTERIAN MANSE.

LXXIII.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

THE Catholic Benevolent Legion and St. Cecilia's Total Abstinence society are accomplishing much for the elevation and assistance of their members. The former in establishing a fund for families left without means of support, and by those who have complied with all its requirements. And the latter are encouraging temperance and endeavoring to elevate its members to a higher plane of morals and intelligence.

These societies are under the protecting care of the Catholic Church, and have accomplished much in an effort to attract its people in paths of usefulness.

LXXIV.

TUSCAN LODGE, F. AND A. M. NO. 115.

TUSCAN Lodge, F. and A. M., No. 115, was organized in 1871. The first officers were: Treasurer, Alexander Cass; Secretary, John A. Hyde; Officers, Peter Rogers, W. C. Davis, Moses E. Springer, Alexander Cass, John A. Hyde; Charter Members, Peter Rogers, John E. Wentz, William C. Davis, Alexander Cass, Moses E. Springer, John W. Dale, John A. Hyde, Jacob Campbell, Samuel Stalter, Joseph Conklin; Trustees for 1899, William C. Davis, one year; Robert Stevenson, two years; Henry Booth, three years; Finance Committee, John M.

Booth, P. M., M. Frank Vanderbeek,
George D. De Mott.

This lodge is in a flourishing condition
and its membership is constantly in-
creasing.

LXXV.

ODD FELLOWS.

ENGLEWOOD Lodge, I. O. of O. F., 197, was founded October 25, 1883, with fourteen members. This lodge has splendid rooms in the Vanderbeek Building, and has always been very active and prosperous. It has now ninety-five members. Its first officers were: First N. G., Samuel I. Demarest; Vice G., Albert H. Clark; Recording Secretary, Alvin Conklin; Permanent Secretary, John Henry Ackerman; Treasurer, Henry West.

The present officers are: First N. G., Charles Brucker; Vice G., James M. Gulnock; Recording Secretary, J. Edgar Brown; Permanent Secretary, Samuel I. Demarest; Treasurer, John M. Foley.

LXXVI.

THE ROYAL ARCANUM.

THE Palisade Council Royal Arcanum was organized March 27, 1889. Officers at the time of organization: Regent, C. O. Dewey; Vice-Regent, R. P. Wortendyke; Orator, G. B. Best; Past Regent, W. J. M. Byrne; Collector, E. J. Sheridan; Secretary, Perry Chamberlain; Treasurer, C. L. Vanderbeek; Chaplain, M. Mattison; Guide, J. R. Vreeland; Warden, M. F. Vanderbeek; Sentry, James D. Vanderbeek.

This society was founded for a benevolent purpose, which it has strictly adhered to and is very economically managed.

The officers of 1899 are as follows: Re-

gent, G. W. Springer; Vice Regent, G. N. Lounsbury; Orator, S. C. Abramson; Past regent, F. Meyerhoff; collector, R. B. Taylor; Secretary, G. W. Whyard; Treasurer, Jacob R. Demarest; Chaplain, A. H. Engelke; Guide, M. Mattison; Warden, J. H. Howe; Sentry, J. H. Garrison.

LXXVII.

DWIGHT POST.

DWIGHT Post, 103, G. A. R., was organized March 25, 1887. It was named for the Rev. James H. Dwight, who served in the union army, both as soldier and chaplain. The existence of this organization is measured by the lives of its members, and slowly and surely its numbers must continue to decrease. These veterans meet once a year, and march to the Brookside Cemetery in memory of their soldier chaplain. There an oration is delivered by some citizen, when they sadly return, filled with the memories of scenes enacted thirty years ago.

The following are the charter mem-

bers: P. C., William C. Davis; S. V. C., Charles Barr; J. V. C., Rudolph H. Smith; Adjutant, John H. Hopper; Q. M., John D. Christie; Surgeon, Robert Manger; Chaplain, William Fredericks; O. D., Frederick D. Coyte; O. G., James H. Demarest.

THE LYCEUM.



LXXVIII.

LOAN AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

THE Englewood Loan and Building Association was organized in 1887 and has accomplished much in assisting families of small means to obtain a home without much ready cash. The western part of the town is thickly populated with handsome, inexpensive houses which may have never been built if assistance had not been rendered by this association. It has been faithfully, and economically managed and has been very successful as shown by its reports. Moses E. Springer, its efficient secretary, has held the office since 1890.

Its first officers: President, Samuel Riker; Vice-President, R. S. Mangham, Treasurer, Henry Jones.

LXXIX.

THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

MEMORIES of the old "Liberty Pole" have been restored to new life, and its historic events revived by the Daughters of the Revolution. The "Liberty Pole" Chapter of Englewood was organized in 1893. It revives pleasant memories of our patriotic forefathers to whose courage and valor we are indebted for the freedom and religious liberty we all enjoy. The thanks of our citizens should be extended to the patriotic women who have founded a society to keep green not only the memory of our ancestors, but the spot so dear to all where liberty's banner was unfurled in the trying days of the revolution.

Lexington and Evacuation day, the beginning and end of our struggle for

liberty are to be remembered by this society.

The following were the first officers: Mrs. Livingston K. Miller, Regent; Mrs. William A. Childs, Treasurer; Mrs. Edward W. Clarke, Secretary; Miss Adaline Sterling, State Historian, N. J. Society D. R.

This society celebrated the battle of Lexington on the 19th of April of the present year, when a bronze shield was unveiled, the inscription on which is: "Erected by the Liberty Pole Chapter, D. R., to commemorate the Liberty Pole which stood on this spot in revolutionary times."

The ceremony was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Samuel M. Hamilton, after which a very interesting address was delivered by Mayor E. A. Brinkerhoff.

The tablet was presented to the society by Mr. Abram De Ronde.

LXXX.

THE WOMANS' EXCHANGE.

THE WOMANS' Exchange is an institution of recent years. Like many things in nature and commerce it appeared when required. It is an institution peculiar to itself, and differs from all others as it is conducted by women, and forms a social and commercial exchange, where producer and consumer are friends and neighbors. The business is conducted by a third party who receives and disposes of the wares on commission.

The Woman's Exchange in Englewood was organized in 1887, and occupies a very useful position in this community.

Its first board of managers were Mrs. Samuel Duncan, President; Mrs. Shep-

pard Homans, Treasurer; Mrs. George D. Hall, Secretary.

In 1897 it became incorporated under a special act.

The following persons were the first members of the society: Sarah B. Banks, Mary B. Barber, Emily A. Brinkerhoff, Eva B. Browning, Julia S. Childs, Pauline M. Clephane, Mary E. D. Coe, Helen R. Congdon, Elizabeth Coppel, Sophia G. Davison, Jeanette L. Enos, Sarah C. Evans, Sarah H. Homans, Emily B. Kidder, Mary W. Oliphant, Mary A. Peters, Louisa A. Rochester, Persis A. Rockwood, Henrietta L. Sawtelle, Ellen Squire, Mary E. B. Story, Janet T. Wells, Charlotte B. Whittemore, Ellen P. Wickes.

The following persons were its officers: Emily A. Brinkerhoff, President; Charlotte B. Whittemore, Vice-President; Mary E. B. Story, Secretary; Mary B. Barber, Treasurer.

To Miss Henrietta L. Sawtelle is due especial credit for her great ability and untiring efforts to make this exchange a success.

It owns and occupies a beautiful building in a pleasant locality away from all other business enterprises, and is conducted on a higher and more restricted plane than other institutions of business. It has no bargain counters, nor does it grow rich by false pretenses.

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LXXXI.

THE LYCEUM.

THE Lyceum Building was erected in 1889, several years after the Atheneum was destroyed by fire. It is located on the corner of Palisade Avenue and Engle Street, and is a very substantial and sightly building. It includes a fine concert hall, a "Gentlemans' Club," which occupies several large rooms, where its members can meet and enjoy themselves as they wish in reading, billiards, cards, conversation, etc.

A large circulating library is located on the first floor of this building, which was organized in 1890, and has met with great success. It comprises all the newest

publications, and now has over six thousand volumes. The needs and benefits of a library are appreciated in this age of civilization.

The Citizens' National Bank is located in this building and has been a great benefit to the town. It started with a capital of fifty thousand dollars which it has doubled in ten years.

The first officers of the Lyceum were: President, Dwight A. Jones; Vice-President, E. A. Brinkerhoff; Treasurer, C. H. Blake; Secretary, B. Drake Smith. It has an efficient board of directors and is conducted in a conservative manner.



A BUSINESS SECTION.



DAISY FIELDS.

LXXXII.

DAISY FIELDS.

THE sympathies of the civilized world are always aroused by the cry of suffering from innocent children. We hardly realize this condition as we ought unless it is brought within our vision.

On the outskirts of our city to the northwest, and near the Knickerbocker Road is located a home and hospital for crippled children, called "Daisy Fields." A beautiful name suggestive of meadows and flowers, forests and streams. In 1893 a kind and philanthropic family who have long made Englewood their home, feeling that they might make happy and brighten the

lives of a few unfortunate and crippled children, kindly engaged a cottage on the borders of the city. This place includes several acres of land, inclosing meadows with many fine shade trees overhead, and through which passes a small brook where the children can forget their troubles, and enjoy fresh air and peaceful surroundings. A few of these children are able to roam in the fields and enjoy a beautiful stream of water that supplies a pond recently constructed within these grounds, but the children are nearly all cripples or invalids for life, and it is sad to think that they can only remain spectators in the scenes that surround them.

We forget in our busy lives that there are many things we might contribute that would be inexpensive, and greatly add to their pleasure and comfort, such as toys, games, books, clothing, etc.

We may amuse them during their

youth, but their pathway through life is hard to contemplate. As men and women their paths may lead to the gateway of the hospital or the institutions for the poor.

The result of the first year's experience was such that this institution was incorporated and the enterprise successfully continued from that time. The cottage was recently enlarged and the grounds improved. The children have been greatly benefited under this kind treatment, and many have returned to their homes. This institution depends upon its own contributions or those of its friends, as it has no endowment. The following were its first officers: President, Mrs. Herbert B. Turner; Vice-President, Miss Francis E. Lyman; Secretary, Mrs. D. Webster Evans; Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph E. Tillinghast.

The officers at the present time (1899) are: President, Mrs. Herbert B. Turner;

Vice-President, Miss Frances M. Lyman;
Secretary, Mr. Thornton Floyd Turner;
Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph R. Tillinghast.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Turner deserve
great credit for their efforts in behalf of
these crippled children.

LXXXIII.

A NEW CHURCH.

THE West Side Presbyterian Church was organized in April, 1898, from a Sunday school which began in 1894 by members of the Presbyterian Church.

Some time previous to the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Booth's departure from Englewood he had noticed the rapid increase of population on the west side of the town, north and south of Palisade Avenue extension, and made the remark that there would soon be a demand for a church in that thriving locality.

It was not very long before Dr. Booth's prophecy came true, as meetings for prayer were held in different families until October, 1894, when a room was engaged in Professor August Kursteiner's

school building, where services were held every Friday and Sunday evenings, and a Sunday school established. The Presbyterian Church kept a watchful eye on this new church, and encouraged its development in every way.

The Rev. James Eells and E. A. Brinkerhoff, two members of the session of the Presbyterian Church suggested that Dwight Chapel was too large for the wants of Calvary Mission, and advised its gift to the West Side Presbyterian Church.

In reference to Dwight Chapel it may be stated that this building was a noble gift by one of Englewood's former residents to the memory of the Rev. James H. Dwight.

The condition of the gift of Dwight Chapel was that it should be located where it would do the most good, and was placed under the care of the Presbyterian Church.

A meeting of this church resulted in presenting Dwight Chapel to the West Side Church on condition that it would incorporate under the title of the West Side Union Chapel for the purpose of enabling them to receive the gift. These conditions all being complied with Dwight Chapel was transferred to the West Side Presbyterian Church.

Money was raised and a new building was placed on the old foundation of Calvary Mission of sufficient size for their needs.

Five thousand dollars were speedily raised to purchase land, build a foundation, move the building and prepare it for its new condition.

When the new church was organized, the Presbytery, at the suggestion of the people, appointed the Rev. Fisher H. Booth chairman of the meeting, and Charles F. Park was also made a member of the committee.

The Presbyterian Church gave letters of dismissal to thirty-six members, that they might be received into membership of the West Side Church.

This church was established with fifty-two members.

The church is now established on a solid foundation, and is growing rapidly under the charge of their esteemed pastor, the Rev. Charles A. Junkin.



DEPOT PARK IN WINTER.

LXXXIV.

OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT.

WE have a very efficient fire department, and since its existence very little damage has resulted from conflagration. Previous to this organization we had some heavy losses. The most noticeable were the Palisade Mountain House, and the extensive dwelling of William Walter Phelps, one overlooking the Hudson River, the other on Teaneck Ridge. These buildings were situated at the extreme east and west end of the township, and were a total loss. They are beautiful ruins, as ivy and creeping vines cover the walls and reach to the tops of their tall chimneys.

The Mountain House was a great loss

to Englewood, as its summer guests added much to its life and business. A large stone mansion was consumed a few years ago, which stood on a large piece of ground near the center of the village, upon which there was no insurance, and within its walls in some unsafe deposit trunk or closet rested twenty thousand dollars in unregistered bonds. All the owner received for said bonds was the lesson it taught.

It will be well for the rising generation to take a little stock in this lesson of experience.

LXXXV.

A CITY OF DWELLINGS.

FORTUNATELY we are not a manufacturing town. Several attempts have been made to locate large factories here, but they did not mature. A silk mill was started here a few years ago, but after running some time it went into the hands of a receiver. The only mill that succeeds too well here is the gin mill. A statement of the fact is sufficient. It is hard to realize how the residents of Englewood, with their beautiful homes, could be benefited by making this a manufacturing town.

The object of the founders of Englewood was to build a town of substantial homes, where peace and happiness

might dwell. The future to them was a pleasant dream of gilded hopes, which lured them into paths, the termination of which they knew not.

The class of men they induced to settle here throws a pleasant light across their pathway, and proves that their motives and desires were of a high order.

Death called one after another before their work was completed.

LXXXVI.

THE CHARACTER OF OUR CITY.

THE character of a town becomes what its founders make it. They form its institutions and direct its affairs; they unfurl its banner and proclaim its principles.

The character of this town has always been maintained, though the ranks have been thinned by a relentless fate, but fortunately a kind Providence has sent us others who have filled their places and assumed the responsibilities that rest on the town.

Englewood's good name has reached far beyond the hills that surround the town, and within its gates the fathers are proud of their children.

THE END.

